

SURGERY

Synopsis



CHAIR'S MESSAGE



Douglas E. Wood, MD, FACS,
FRCSed (*ad hom*)

The Henry N. Harkins Professor and Chair

This issue of Surgery Synopsis is our Education issue, in which we celebrate our residents and fellows who have completed their training and welcome our new trainees. Over the course of the last year we've featured a number of adaptations and changes in the way we have conducted resident interviews, as well as changes that we made to our residency training program in order to keep training our residents to the highest standards. It was necessary, though not easy. The challenges were met with extraordinary innovation and grace. I want to again express my gratitude to all the faculty, staff and most of all, our residents and fellows.

Throughout this issue you will read about our departing trainees who are moving to the next stage of their career. We will highlight the research of our residents currently in their **2021-23 research training years**, as well as resident honors and awards. Finally, we welcome our **new residents**. We are excited to have them join us this summer and they are now already actively involved in the ORs and clinics. I encourage you to read all of the issue to fully appreciate the breadth, depth and extraordinary quality embedded in our training programs.

For the majority of this column I want to focus on education in two different ways. First, what we are doing in policy and structure at the national and department front to change the training experience in ways that increase effectiveness for all of our trainees. Second, I want to focus on what the Department is doing to effect change in some deeply embedded structures that have perpetuated disparities and inequities within surgery. These actions have a direct impact upon our trainees as well.

The American College of Surgeons (ACS) has placed increasing emphasis on what can be done to lessen residency time without sacrificing quality training. The Cardiothoracic and Vascular Surgery Integrated models are being further explored for repetition in other specialties. Continued effort and sustained attention are being given to the balance between independence and efficiency, autonomy and supervision. For example, increased proctoring time in surgery may be good for skills training, but must be balanced against the importance of developing independence and autonomy by the trainee

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in the OR. And with trainee time in the OR at a premium, we keep innovating and working to build skills in the most efficient way. As example, the Department General Surgery Residency (under the leadership of Dr. Andy Wright) is actively redesigning the technical skills curriculum to increase efficiency of learning basic surgical skills.

As a Regent of the ACS Board of Regents, I am involved in finding ways for trainees to become active in professional societies early in their career. I believe this to be an important aspect of our residents' career development, and preparation for a rich professional life of engagement and lifelong learning. At the ACS, we look for opportunities to increase resident involvement, such as a dues structure that is better aligned with trainee resources. It is my conviction that early involvement in professional societies not only promotes important networking, but provides opportunities for presenting research, participating on panels and forums, and is a training ground for future involvement in committees that move the practice of Surgery forward. For some time, the Department has actively promoted residents' involvement in professional societies in several ways including scholarships for attendance.

Another way the Department is promoting professional growth is through sponsorship. Sponsoring a colleague is not new and has been happening unofficially and randomly. But sponsorship is a targeted and organized effort to boost professional growth for junior faculty, residents and fellows, and as one method to mitigate the impact of longstanding gender and racial bias. In spite of good intent, in surgery we have been slow to change the power structures to become more equitable.

What is sponsorship? Sponsorship involves faculty with well-established careers and connections, as well as those in positions of leadership, talking about, promoting, and nominating residents and junior faculty for leadership positions, committees, research projects, and awards. Sponsorship is about actively seeking opportunities for a more junior colleague. As example, faculty surgeon X suggests to an ACS Committee Chair that faculty trainee Y (their sponsee) would be an excellent choice for participation on a panel or a particular presentation, and you'd like for them to be given the opportunity, followed by introductions, and assistance in working through any barriers. I am happy to say that the Department, led by the Women's Council, is deeply involved in launching a formal structure to enhance sponsorship within our Department.

(continued on page 3)

The Women's Council, led by Dr. Kris Calhoun, Professor in the Division of General Surgery is also making impressive inroads on better understanding and recommending changes to address the persistent issues that face women surgeons, as well as their male counterparts. One of their first successful projects resulted in the creation and adoption of the Pregnancy and Leave Policy for faculty and residents by the Department of Surgery. This policy, which addresses issues encountered during pregnancy, leave and while lactating, has proven to be a template for a similar policy written by the ACS. The Faculty Women's Council and the companion Resident Women's Council are engaged in a number of projects and initiatives that continue to address the systems and policies that have led to gender disparity, discrimination and exclusion in Surgery. Subgroups have investigated grading in the General Surgery clerkship to see if there is gender bias as a means to identify why high number of women medical students fail to translate into high numbers of women faculty, whether there are ACGME milestone rating evaluation differences between men and women at the resident level, and are next planning to study whether summative comments vary between the genders. All of these projects are designed to erase disparities for our students, residents, fellows and faculty as a whole.

Dr. Calhoun reports that the Resident Women's Council has a number of additional initiatives and projects they are actively working on. Residents have launched a mentor pairs program for medical students who have expressed interest in exploring surgery as a future career. The Resident Women's Council has also set up Zoom meet and greets and Q&A Sessions for Medical Students as they are making decisions about residency. I am proud and grateful for the work of these groups.

Gender inequity has been persistent in all of surgery and has been true within our Department as well. I have come to deeply believe in and champion changes that will move us closer to gender equity. At the same time, we have many examples of strong women faculty in our Department. I want to especially recognize Dr. Nicole Gibran, Professor Emeritus. Nicole retired in July of this year. She's left a lasting legacy in our Department, in the specialty of Burn Surgery and Burn Research. Her many accomplishments and retrospective of her career are highlighted on [page 21](#).

Finally, I want to say that as a white, male surgical Chair, I have come to understand that to be effective in leading our department to become a more equitable and inclusive Department, I must be willing to recognize my own privilege, biases and shortcomings, to listen openly and learn from my mistakes. I can become a better ally to our

women colleagues by ensuring equal leadership opportunities. I can work to create a climate that is inclusive, ensuring all have a voice. I want to acknowledge my male colleagues who have displayed these characteristic and have been great partners, mentors, sponsors, and allies to their female colleagues. Our department is becoming better as we learn and grow together.

I hope you enjoy reading this issue of Surgery Synopsis.

Sincerely,

Douglas E. Wood, MD, FACS, FRCSEd
The Henry N. Harkins Professor & Chair
 Department of Surgery
 University of Washington

EDUCATION HIGHLIGHT

DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY

2021 RESIDENT GRADUATION DINNER

The 2021 Department of Surgery (DOS) Chief Residents' Dinner was held virtually on June 19, 2021. Dr. Douglas E. Wood, The Henry N. Harkins Professor and Chair, welcomed guests and DOS faculty presented awards.

This annual event celebrates the graduation of all program residents and fellows who have trained in the department. The DOS is proud to have some of the top training programs in the nation, which is made possible through the hard work of many. Special thanks goes to the education staff: **Kira Martin**, Senior Administrator for Education and Divisions of Plastic Surgery/Harborview Medical Center, Trauma, Critical Care & Burn Surgery, & Veterans Administration Healthcare (VAPHS), **Gina Coluccio**, Manager, Surgical Education, **Joanna Ames**, General Surgery-Categorical and Preliminary Surgery Programs' Administrator, **Kristelle Calma**, Program Operations Specialist, **Karyn Crow**, Plastic Surgery Residency Program Administrator, **Anne Long**, Vascular Surgery Residency Program Administrator, **Karina Martinez**, Microvascular Reconstructive Surgery Fellowship and Advanced GI/Minimally Invasive Surgery Fellowship Programs' Administrator, **Suzanne Mills**, Program Operations Specialist, **Kaitlin Ree**, Program Operations Analyst, and **Laura Yale**, Medical Student Program Administrator.



DOS chief residents virtual graduation event

CHIEF RESIDENTS GRADUATING 2021

INTEGRATED CARDIOTHORACIC SURGERY RESIDENT

Tori Lennox, MD

Plans: Private Practice, Coeur d'Alene, ID

INTEGRATED PLASTIC SURGERY RESIDENTS

Daniel Cho, MD, PhD, MSc

Plans: Craniofacial Plastic Surgery Fellowship at Children's Hospital, University of Pennsylvania

Charles Rodriguez-Feo, MD

Plans: Hand Surgery Fellowship at Baylor College of Medicine

Isaac Stein, MD

Plans: Assistant Professor, Division of Plastic Surgery, University of Washington

Grace Um, MD

Plans: Microsurgery Fellowship, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY

2021 RESIDENT GRADUATION DINNER (CONT.)

GENERAL SURGERY RESIDENTS

Oluwatobi Afolayan, MD

*Plans: Cardiothoracic Surgery Fellowship,
Baylor University*

Jamal Anyalebechi, MD

*Plans: Cardiothoracic Surgery Fellowship,
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center*

Matthew Bartek, MD, MPH

*Plans: Surgical Palliative Care Fellowship,
The Massachusetts General and Brigham and
Women's Hospitals Joint Program*

Andrew Ludwig, MD

Plans: Private Practice, Evergreen Health, Kirkland, WA

John Monu, MD, MPH

*Plans: Cardiothoracic Surgery Fellowship,
Oregon Health Sciences University*

Yongwoo (David) Seo, MD

*Plans: Complex General Surgical Oncology Fellowship,
MD Anderson Cancer Center*

Kathryn Stadel, MD, MPH

*Plans: Trauma and Surgical Critical Care Fellowship,
University of Washington*

Kevin Sullivan, MD

*Plans: Complex General Surgical Oncology Fellowship,
City of Hope*

SURGERY FELLOWS FINISHING JUNE 2021

Abhiram Bhashyam, MD, PhD

Hand Surgery

Ronald Brown, MD

Hand Surgery

Matt Dellinger, MD

Pediatric Surgery

Gina Farias-Eisner, MD

Hand Surgery

James Hendele, MD

Abdominal Transplant Surgery

Benjamin Huebner, MD

Surgical Critical Care

Katherine Iverson, MD, MPH

Surgical Critical Care

Peter Johnston, MD

Surgical Critical Care

Andrew Kaufman, MD

Cardiothoracic Surgery

Madonna Lee, MD

Congenital Cardiac Surgery

Vimukta Mahadev, MD

Surgical Critical Care

John McClellan, MD

Surgical Critical Care

Karina Newhall, MD

Vascular Surgery

Dale Podolsky, MD, PhD

Craniofacial Surgery

Clifford Scheckter, MD

Surgical Critical Care

Stephen Viviano, MD

*Microvascular
Reconstructive Surgery*

Howard Wang, MD

Craniofacial Surgery

Jay Zhu, MD

*Center for Videoendoscopic
Surgery*

Stephen Zoller, MD

Hand Surgery

PRELIMINARY RESIDENTS

Lindsay Eysenbach, MD

Natalie Friedrichs, MD, MS

Jonathan Gatto, MD

Rochelle Gaudet, MD

Ronald Goubert, MD

Kevin Huang, MD

Jacky Kwong, MD

Sarah LaPierre, MD

Chelsey Lemaster, MD, MPH

Catherine Lynch, MD

Craig May, MD, MA

Reece Miller, MD

William Montagne, MD

Courtney Orsbon, MD, PhD

Hannah Van Patten, MD

Amanda West, MD, MPH



DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY

2021 RESIDENT GRADUATION DINNER (CONT.)

2021 GRADUATING CHIEF RESIDENT AWARDS

HARKINS SOCIETY & HENRY HARKINS AWARD (est. 1985)

AWARDEE

Dr. Alex Kurtz

This award is presented to a University of Washington School of Medicine medical student who has completed outstanding clinical work and demonstrated a strong interest in pursuing training in a surgical discipline.

Presented by Dr. Kristine Calhoun, Professor,
Director of Medical Student Surgical Education,
Division of General Surgery

DOS RESIDENT AWARD FOR MEDICAL STUDENT TEACHING (est. 2013)

AWARDEE

Alison Haruta, MD

This award is presented to a Department of Surgery resident at any level who made a positive impact on medical students through teaching and mentoring.

Comments from medical students:

"She went above and beyond to find time to educate us (the medical students) on any topic of our choosing during incredibly busy days of her service. She would stick up for me if an attending or staff member was being harsh or overly critical while also showing humility in admitting if she had made a mistake. She went above and beyond her role as a resident in teaching and managing the medical students when it was clear she did not have to nor have time that was convenient to do so. Additionally, she provides excellent care to her patients while also being respectful to everyone she is around."

Presented by Dr. Karen Horvath, Professor and Director,
Residency Program in General Surgery

RESIDENT ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AWARD (est. 2017)

AWARDEES

Lindsay Dickerson, MD, Alexandra Hernandez, MD,
MCR, Dara Horn, MD, Kevin Huang, MD,
Chelsey Lemaster, MD, MPH,
Joshua Rosen, MD, MHS, Kevin Sullivan, MD

This award is presented to those General Surgery residents who scored in the 85th percentile or greater from across the nation on the ABSITE exam this year.

Presented by Dr. Karen Horvath, Professor and Director,
Residency Program in General Surgery

THE JUNIOR RESIDENT ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP AWARD (est. 2013)

AWARDEE

Jacky Kwong, MD

This award is presented to the Surgery R1/R2 who participates in the greatest number of Journal Clubs in an academic year.

Presented by Dr. Karen Horvath, Professor and Director,
Residency Program in General Surgery

ANNUAL HARBORVIEW HOUSESTAFF ACHIEVEMENT AWARD (est. 1985)

AWARDEE

Kathryn Stadel, MD, MPH

This award is presented annually to a University of Washington resident from amongst a pool of 1,300 residents and fellows. This incredibly prestigious award recognizes nominees for their "extraordinary clinical ability and humanitarian concern," as best shown through their exemplary care provided to Harborview Medical Center's patients.

Presented by Dr. Karen Horvath, Professor and Director,
Residency Program in General Surgery

DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY

2021 RESIDENT GRADUATION DINNER (CONT.)

FACULTY TEACHING AWARD (est. 1989)

AWARDEE

**Eileen Bulger, MD, FACS, Professor &
Chief, Trauma, Division of Trauma,
Burn & Critical Care Surgery**

This award, in memory of former faculty member John K. Stevenson, salutes faculty teaching excellence and dedication to resident education.

Presented by Chief Residents: Tobi Afolayan, MD, Jamal Anyalebechi, MD, Matthew Bartek, MD, MPH, Aaron Berhanu, MD, Daniel Cho, MD, Christopher Crowe, MD, Tori Lennox, MD, Katie Liu, MD, Andrew Ludwig, MD, John Monu, MD, Charles Rodriguez-Feo, MD, Dave Seo, MD, Danielle Sobol, MD, Kate Stadel, MD, Isaac Stein, MD, Kevin Sullivan, MD, Roderick Yang, MD and Grace Um, MD

DOS STAFF RECOGNITION

AWARDEE

Casey Atwa, Program Specialist, Surgical Services

This award recognizes the efforts of a Department of Surgery staff member who has gone above and beyond ensuring residents have a great experience while rotating at the Veterans Administration Puget Sound Health Care System (VA).

Presented by Deborah Marquardt, MD, Assistant Professor, Veterans Administration Puget Sound Health Care System (VA) and Chief Residents

DAVID TAPPER TEACHING & LEADERSHIP AWARD (est. 2003)

AWARDEE

Oluwatobi Afolayan, MD

This award is presented to a General Surgery Chief Resident who exemplifies the teaching and leadership qualities that others seek to emulate.

Presented by Douglas E. Wood,
The Henry N. Harkins Professor and Chair



Maleng Building at Harborview Medical Center

EDUCATION HIGHLIGHT

WELCOME 2021-22 NEW SURGERY RESIDENTS

The Department of Surgery welcomes our new, first-year 2021-2022 residents. The Department is proud to have this group begin their surgical education journeys towards being leaders in their fields.



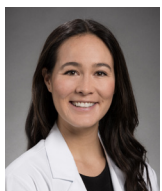
Griffen Allen, MD
General Surgery R1



Stuart Allyn, DDS, MD
Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery R1



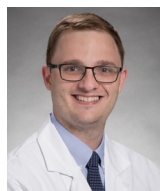
Pano Apokremiotis, MD
Preliminary Surgery R1



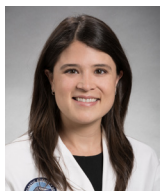
Malia Brennan, MD
General Surgery R1



Thais Calderon, MD
Plastic Surgery R1



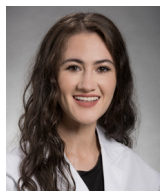
Jason Carter, MD, PhD
General Surgery R1



Daniella Cordero, MD
Plastic Surgery R1



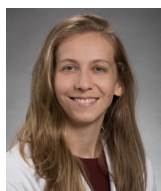
Karanpreet Dhaliwal, MD, MS
Cardiothoracic Surgery R1



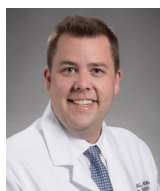
Sarah Doe-Williams, MD, MS
Preliminary Surgery R1



Nicholas Eustace, MD
Preliminary Surgery R1



Kristin Goodsell, MD
General Surgery R1



Damian Hall, MD, MBA, MS
Preliminary Surgery R1

Each year we ask our new residents a series of questions to introduce our readers to this remarkable group of future surgical leaders...

WHY DID I CHOOSE UW DOS RESIDENCY?

*"Its reputation as a **strong and active advocate for minority surgeons** while being an excellent Cardiothoracic Surgery training program made this a **MUST** for me."*

*"UW has a reputation for its **positive work culture, excellent teaching faculty, and ideal location** in the heart of Seattle. These factors all wrapped into one package truly sets UW residents up for success!"*

*"**Top notch faculty, strong clinical training, and first-hand testimonials** from current and prior residents."*

*"UW's reputation for training **excellent, competent, independent surgeons**. I could not turn away the opportunity to take part in this training."*

*"I chose UW because I wanted to be surrounded by **open-minded, compassionate problem solvers** who care for a **diverse set of patients** as well as for each other."*

*"The **high volume and acuity of cardiothoracic surgery patients** who receive care at UW made my choice for fellowship training extremely easy. Additionally, I felt a true connection between the surgical staff, residents, and APPs, and am excited to join the UW cardiothoracic surgery family."*

*"**Awesome location, diverse and experienced faculty, institutional resources, commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts.**"*

*"UW is undoubtedly an excellent program but the **"aha" moment** for me was my interview. Every conversation with faculty members and current residents felt natural. It was apparent I was talking with **people who I would feel fortunate to call my mentors, colleagues, and friends**. I immediately felt at home."*

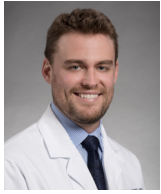
*"I was impressed by the **welcoming, enthusiastic and close-knit UW residents and faculty**. I was also looking for an academic program with **diverse training sites and a commitment to serving vulnerable and marginalized populations**."*

*"I was looking for a residency program that would provide **exceptional training in a supportive environment** to ensure that I had a solid foundation of skills before my Dermatology training. The fact that UW is located in one of the most beautiful and exciting parts of the world was the icing on the cake!"*

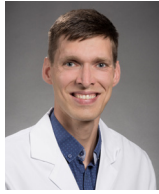
EDUCATION HIGHLIGHT

WELCOME 2021-22

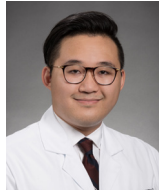
NEW SURGERY RESIDENTS (CONT.)



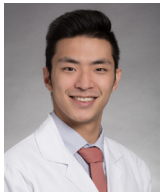
Robert
Johnson, DDS, MD
Oral & Maxillofacial
Surgery R1



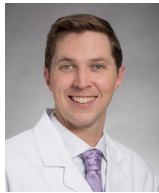
Paul
Herman, MD
General Surgery R1



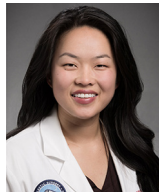
Arthur
Lanoux-Nguyen, MD
Preliminary Surgery R1



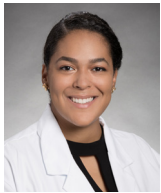
Junggu Lee, MD
Preliminary
Surgery R1



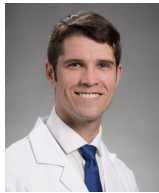
Andrew
Liechty, MD
Preliminary Surgery R1



Alice Liu, MD
Plastic
Surgery R1



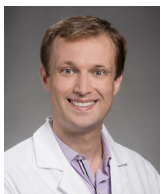
Heydi
Malave, MD
General Surgery R1



David
Mitchell, MD
Preliminary Surgery R1



Daniel
Mohammadi, MD
Preliminary Surgery R1



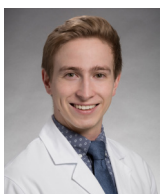
Stanley
Moore, MD
Preliminary Surgery R1



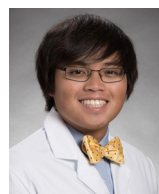
Blake
Murphy, MD
Vascular Surgery R1



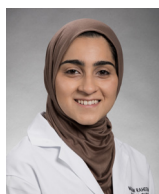
Kevin
Narang, MD
Preliminary Surgery R1



Scott O'Neil, MD
Preliminary
Surgery R1



Patrick Palines, MD
Preliminary
Surgery R1



Mariam Raheem, DO
Preliminary
Surgery R1

WHAT EXCITES ME THE MOST REGARDING MY RESIDENCY?

"The ability to train in a supportive department with world class mentors."

"Learning to manage complex patients alongside a great co-resident class!"

*"I am most excited to be contributing to patient care in a **team-oriented environment**. This, in combination with critical thinking and problem-solving, has brought me a great deal of satisfaction during my time at UW so far."*

"The clinical training and the people I work with."

*"I am excited for the **fast-paced learning** that is residency, as well as the opportunity to explore the broad field of surgery. In addition, I am excited to work aside colleagues with similar career aspirations."*

"Expanding my knowledge base and applying it daily in the care of my patients."

*"I am excited to develop my surgical skills through a balanced cardiothoracic fellowship by learning complex cardiac and thoracic operations at a **world-class institution**."*

"My co-residents!"

"Developing as a surgeon!"

*"The opportunity to pursue cardiothoracic surgery in a **supportive and diverse training environment** surrounded by people who are invested in my success."*

"Increased responsibility for my patients, rapid growth in knowledge and technical skills."

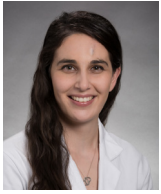
*"Every day offers up **new challenges and opportunities to learn**. You are challenged to be the best physician you can be alongside kind and hardworking individuals. As a resident, I don't think you can ask for much more than that."*



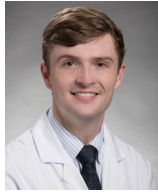
EDUCATION HIGHLIGHT

WELCOME 2021-22

NEW SURGERY RESIDENTS (CONT.)



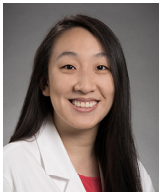
Charlotte
Read, MBBS
Preliminary Surgery R1



Erik Risa, MD
Preliminary
Surgery R1



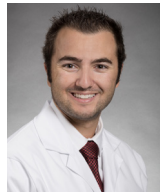
Jamie
Schnuck, MD
General Surgery R1



Abra Shen, MD
Plastic
Surgery R1



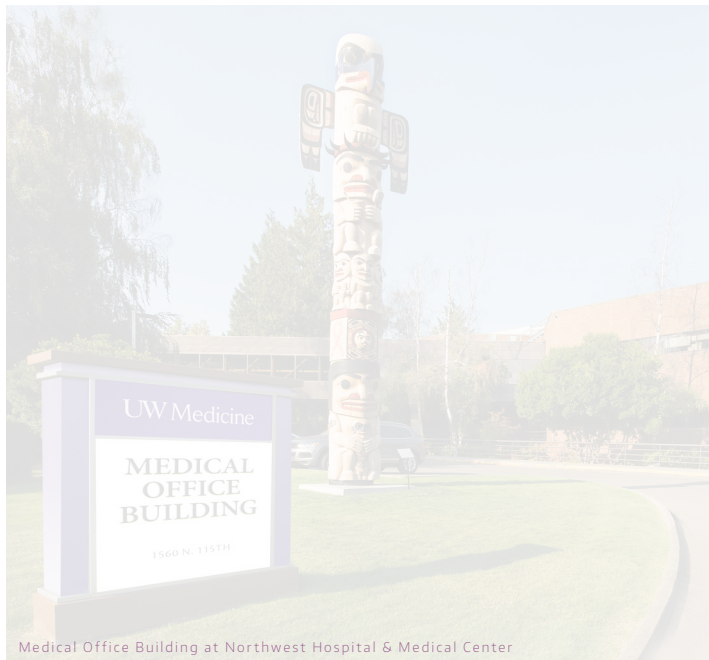
Nicolas
Stafforini, MD
Vascular Surgery R1



Andre Wakim, MD
Preliminary
Surgery R1



Leena
Zurayk, DDS, MD
Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery R1



Medical Office Building at Northwest Hospital & Medical Center

WHY DO I WANT TO BE A SURGEON?

*"I am drawn to the **intricate anatomy and extreme diligence** it takes to become a cardiothoracic surgeon. The ability to help and play a role in protecting this organ seems to me—
an ideal way to help serve."*

*"I want to **improve peoples' quality of life** by using my hands in a team environment like the OR."*

*"Surgery requires a combination of **technical skill and logical reasoning** that makes sense in most scenarios. In addition to this, managing patients with common (or uncommon) comorbidities creates special considerations for every operation."*

*"Being able to provide **impactful tangible care** to patients."*

*"Surgeons have the power to **impact someone's life** if a very specific yet powerful way. It is an awesome privilege and responsibility."*

*"For the opportunity to **impact patients**, especially those who often have no other recourse, in a tangible way."*

*"I find great satisfaction in **working with my hands and honing my craft**, whether that be with a chef's knife, a painter's brush, or a surgeon's scalpel. I value the ability to marry my appreciation for technical expertise with healing my patients through surgical precision. There is no greater honor in my mind that to be able to serve my community with my surgical skill, and I find it personally and professionally fulfilling to use my hands to provide that surgical care to for my community."*

*"Taking care of patients at their most vulnerable time, **assisting in the generational evolution of a surgical subspecialty**, and navigating the challenges of the operating room is why I want to be a surgeon!"*

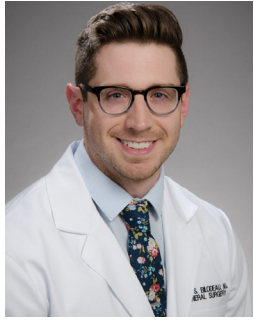
*"I want to be a surgeon because I want to use my hands-on skills and critical thinking abilities to **actively and acutely improve the quality of life of patients**.
Plus, I love being in the OR!"*

*"I desired **the relationships** I saw between my surgery mentors and their patients - a unique level of ownership and responsibility is required to instill the level of trust required to allow someone to operate on you. It maintains the cerebral side of many other medical specialties, but also has a technical side that I enjoy."*

*"As a future Dermatologist, I believe it is incredibly important to be sufficiently trained in surgery to ensure that you can **be the best doctor** for your patients not only in a medical sense but also in a surgical sense too."*

2021-23 Surgery Research Residents

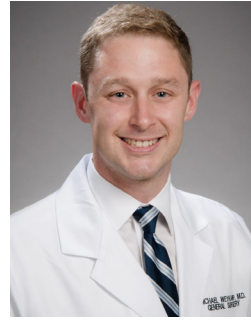
We are proud to present this year's new research residents. Research is a key component of the UW Department of Surgery's residency programs and these residents have each "paused" their clinical training in order to complete a two-year research fellowship. Our research residents, along with their clinical peers who work hard to find time to participate in numerous projects throughout their training, all play an integral role in fulfilling the Department's research mission.



Kyle Bilodeau, MD

Dr. Bilodeau is a research fellow in the T32 Postdoctoral Research Fellowship in Trauma and Burns under the guidance of Dr. [Grant O'Keefe](#), Professor in the Division of Trauma, Burn, and Critical Care Surgery. Dr. Bilodeau is focused on clinical and translational research involving extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO). His interests include the

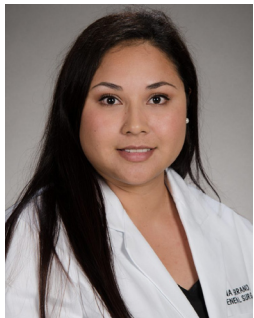
association between ECMO support type, complications, and mortality, as well as the effect of current circuit technologies on hemostasis, thrombosis, and inflammation. During his fellowship, Dr. Bilodeau will also complete a Master of Science in the UW School of Public Health and Health Services, with a concentration in Clinical and Translational Research. Following his residency, Dr. Bilodeau plans to pursue a fellowship in Cardiothoracic Surgery.



Mike Weycamp, MD

Dr. Weycamp is a research fellow in the T32 Postdoctoral Research Fellowship in Trauma and Burns under the guidance of Dr. [Grant O'Keefe](#), Professor in the Division of Trauma, Burn, and Critical Care Surgery. Dr. Weycamp is interested in translational research with a focus on pre-hospital trauma care, shock, and device development and is collaborating

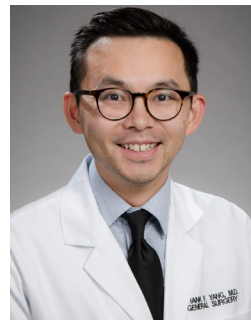
with researchers at Madigan Army Medical Center including Chief of Surgery, Dr. Jason Bingham, to develop therapies to improve the care of combat casualties. Dr. Weycamp plans to pursue a fellowship in trauma and critical care.



Elina Serrano, MD, MPH

Dr. Serrano is a research fellow in the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK) funded T32 fellowship in Gastrointestinal Surgical Outcomes Research at the Surgical Outcomes Research Center (SORCE) under the mentorship of Dr. [David Flum](#), Professor in the Division of General Surgery. She

is studying the impact of language barriers on commonly reported surgical outcomes such as complication rates, readmission rates, and mortality, as well as on patient reported measures of health, satisfaction, and quality of life. Dr. Serrano hopes to accomplish this through an integration of qualitative and quantitative research. Her goal is to use research findings to inform interventions aimed at improving surgical care access and delivery for underserved communities. During her fellowship, Dr. Serrano will also complete a Master of Science in Health Services with a concentration on Clinical and Translational Research at the University of Washington. She ultimately plans to pursue a career in academic surgery with an emphasis on surgical disparities research.



Frank Yang, MD

Dr. Yang is a research fellow in the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK) funded T32 fellowship in Gastrointestinal Surgical Outcomes Research at the Surgical Outcomes Research Center (SORCE) under the guidance of Dr. [David Flum](#), Professor in the Division of General Surgery. Dr. Yang's research

interests include clinical outcomes, cost-effectiveness, and resource utilization in general and endocrine surgery. Dr. Yang will also be enrolled in the Master of Science program in Health Services with coursework in biostatistics, epidemiology, and other methodology in health services research. Following general surgery residency, Dr. Yang plans to pursue a fellowship in surgical oncology or endocrine surgery.

EDUCATION HIGHLIGHT

WELCOME 2021-22 NEW SURGERY FELLOWS

The Department of Surgery is honored to welcome our new clinical and research fellows.



Dr. Hira Ahmad
Fellow, Pediatric General & Thoracic Surgery



Dr. Brian Bateson
Fellow, Congenital Cardiac Surgery



Dr. Kyle Bilodeau
T32 Research Fellow,
Translational Research in
Trauma and Critical
Care Fellowship



Dr. Erika Bisgaard
Fellow, Surgical
Critical Care – Trauma Track



Dr. Brian Cho
Hand and Microvascular
Surgery Fellow,
Orthopaedic and
Plastic Surgery



Dr. James Clark
Cardiothoracic
Surgery Fellow



Dr. Christian Crannell
Abdominal Transplant
Fellowship Fellow



Dr. Callistus Ditah
Cardiothoracic
Surgery Fellow



Dr. John Heineman
Hand and Microvascular
Surgery Fellow,
Orthopaedic and
Plastic Surgery



Dr. CJ Hillenbrand
Vascular Surgery Fellow,
Vascular Surgery



Dr. Raymond Jean
Fellow, Surgical
Critical Care – Trauma Track



Dr. Alisha Jiwani
Fellow, Surgical
Critical Care – Burn Track



Dr. Stephen Kaplan
Fellow, Surgical
Critical Care – Trauma Track



Dr. Brianne Mitchell
Fellow, Surgical
Critical Care – Burn Track



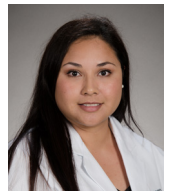
Dr. Andrew Rabley
Pellegini/Oelschlager Endowed
Fellowship in Healthcare
Simulation Training



Dr. Mélissa Roy
Craniofacial Surgery Fellow,
Craniofacial Surgery



Dr. Nallely Saldana-Ruiz
Vascular Surgery Fellow,
Vascular Surgery



Dr. Elina Serano
T32 Research Fellow,
Gastrointestinal Surgical
Outcomes Research
Fellowship



Dr. Sameer Shakir
Craniofacial Surgery Fellow,
Craniofacial Surgery



Dr. Ping Song
Microvascular
Reconstructive Surgery
Fellow



Dr. Ravi Sood
Hand and Microvascular
Surgery Fellow,
Orthopaedic and
Plastic Surgery



Dr. Kathryn Stadel
Fellow, Surgical
Critical Care – Trauma Track



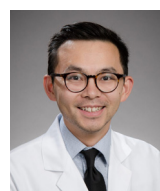
Dr. Laurel Tangelakis
Advanced GI/
Minimally Invasive Surgery
Fellowship Fellow



Dr. Michael Weykamp
T32 Research Fellow,
Translational Research in
Trauma and Critical
Care Fellowship



Dr. James Winters
Hand and Microvascular
Surgery Fellow,
Orthopaedic and
Plastic Surgery



Dr. Frankie Yang
T32 Research Fellow,
Gastrointestinal Surgical
Outcomes Research
Fellowship

Department of Surgery New Education Web Section



Karen D. Horvath, MD

*Professor of Surgery
Associate Chair for Education
Director, Residency Programs in
General and Preliminary Surgery*

The COVID-19 pandemic was the impetus for many new surprise projects. One such project was the UW Department of Surgery (DOS) Education & Training [web section](#). As we marched through the spring of 2020, we realized that all residency and fellow recruitment would be 100% virtual. This meant that our website needed to be in tiptop shape with comprehensive program information, up-to-date content, and easy to navigate with mobile devices. This rebuild had been in the plans to occur at a future date when the entire Department website was migrated to its new platform, but with the new virtual recruitment season just around the corner we realized we needed to put this project on a FAST TRACK. So, we quickly assembled a Taskforce and got to work! Taskforce members included: Dr. [Bryce Robinson](#), Associate Professor, Division of Trauma, Burn & Critical Care Surgery, [Caroline Riley](#), Program Manager, Division of Trauma, Burn & Critical Care Surgery, Dr. [Catherine Kling](#), Assistant Professor, Division of Transplant Surgery, Dr. [David Drouillard](#), R4, General Surgery, Dr. [Elina Quiroga](#), Associate Professor, Division of Vascular Surgery, Dr. [Erin Miller](#), Assistant Professor, Division of Plastic Surgery, Dr. [Jake Hemingway](#), Chief Resident, Vascular Surgery, Dr. [Jay Zhu](#), Fellow, Center for Videoendoscopic Surgery), Dr. [Jeffrey Friedrich](#), Professor, Division of Plastic Surgery, Dr. [Jenny Yu](#), R5,

Plastic Surgery, [Kate Rimmer](#), Administrator, Divisions of General Surgery, Plastic Surgery/UW Medical Center-Montlake, Vascular Surgery/UW Medical Center-Northwest, Manager, Research Enterprise, and Communications, [Kira Martin](#), Senior Administrator for Education and Divisions of Plastic Surgery/Harborview Medical Center, Trauma, Critical Care & Burn Surgery, & Veterans Administration Healthcare (VAPHS), [Kay Burke](#), Program Operations Specialist, Dr. [Kathleen Berfield](#), Assistant Professor, Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery, Cardiothoracic Surgery Integrated Residency Program Director, Assistant Professor, Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery, Chief of Thoracic Surgery, VAPHS, [Katie Nowlin](#), Program Manager, Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery, Dr. [Kirsten Concha Moore](#), R3, Vascular Surgery, Dr. [Max Adcox](#), R2, Cardiothoracic Surgery, and Dr. [Nina Clark](#), R3, General Surgery.

The Taskforce met weekly via Zoom July through September 2020 and was chaired by Dr. [Karen Horvath](#), Professor, Division of General Surgery, General Surgery-Categorical and Preliminary Residency Programs Director, Associate Chair for Education. We researched available options for our new site, acknowledged our time and financial limitations, outlined our vision, created a standardized template, introduced new social media links and photos, and collected content from all education programs. Our amazing IT consultants, [Chris Fiset](#), Web Computing Specialist, [Michael Hilleary](#), Public Information Specialist, and [Roland Lai](#), Director IT Services, listened patiently, contributed real world advice, and enacted the vision the Taskforce designed with lightning speed. In a few short months, the result was that resident/fellow applicants looking at DOS training programs had a streamlined and efficient place to locate information under a single Education section umbrella. It is fair to say COVID-19 provided us with a great, new and updated recruitment tool for all of DOS training programs moving forward—thank you COVID-19???

Cardiovascular Advanced Practice Provider Fellowship Program



Jennifer Peterson, DNP, ARNP
*Fellowship co-Director, Senior Lead APP,
Cardiothoracic Surgery*

The UW Medical Center's [Cardiovascular Advanced Practice \(CV APP\) Fellowship program](#), established in 2014, prepares postgraduate physician assistants (PA) and nurse practitioners (NP) to utilize evidenced-based practice and develop specialized skills to care for chronic and acutely ill patients across the continuum of cardiovascular disease. It is an intense, highly structured, comprehensive program through which newly licensed APPs acquire in depth knowledge, advanced skills, and mentorship in delivering safe, high quality care. The 12-month fellowship begins November 1st and the two fellows complete four week



**Meet Leslie Ma, PA-C and
Stacy Sanders, ARNP, the
2020/2021 Cardiovascular
Advanced Practice
Provider Fellows**

EDUCATION HIGHLIGHT

rotations spanning inpatient and outpatient services. Fellows are supported through each rotation by APP and physician service champions and are mentored throughout the year by the CV APP fellowship committee comprised of APP leaders across the divisions of Cardiothoracic Surgery and Cardiology.

Fellows complete a Quality Improvement (QI) project over the course of the year. The QI work aims to assist the APP fellows in synthesizing learning through participation in a project that contributes to evidence-based practice. This year the CV APP fellows have partnered with Dr. [Lara Oyetunji](#), Assistant Professor, Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery, to develop an Enhanced Recovery after Surgery (ERAS) initiative in the cardiac surgery patient population focused on improving pre-operative patient education, optimizing pre-operative nutrition and creation of a multimodal analgesia initiative.

The CV APP fellowship program was created out of an identified need to provide additional subspecialty training to strong NP/PA new graduates with the goal of increasing the pool of qualified applicants to join our teams. Most graduates of the program have successfully gone on to take positions at UWMC and have thrived in their roles. This year marks the sixth cohort of CV APP fellows; Leslie Ma, PA-C and Stacy Sanders, ARNP (pictured above); and the CV APP fellowship committee has recently finalized selection of the 2021/2022 APP fellows to begin this fall.

Pellegrini-Oelschlager Endowed Fellowship in Surgical Simulation & Fellowship in Healthcare Simulation Science

With its mission to improve the health of the public through simulation science, the University of Washington's (UW) Division of Healthcare Simulation Science (HSS) strives to improve the quality of healthcare education through technology and innovation. The [Pellegrini-Oelschlager Endowed Fellowship in Surgical Simulation and Fellowship in Healthcare Simulation Science programs](#) exemplify this mission.

The Pellegrini-Oelschlager Endowed Fellowship in Surgical Simulation Fellowship program was first established in 2017 through the support of Dr. Carlos Pellegrini, Department of Surgery Chair 1993-2015, and Department of Surgery leadership. Through their support, the program welcomed its first fellow, Dr. Zichen Zhao, in 2017. Since that time, six fellows have completed the program, and most have continued to assume leadership positions in Healthcare Simulation Science.

The Fellowship in Healthcare Simulation Science's objective is to provide a foundation for creating international leaders in development, evaluation, and delivery of medical education curricula enhanced by simulation technologies. The fellows advance their administrative leadership,



John Wingate, WISH Fellow, 2020, teaching colleagues at our colleagues at Virginia Mason General Surgery and Urology

educational, research and development skills through a combination of didactics, independent study, hands-on and project-based learning tailored to their career goals and interests.

Accredited by the American College of Surgeons-Accredited Education Institutes (AEIs), the Fellowship leverages UW's expertise in engineering, computer science, robotics, 3D printing, material science, digital art, physical sculpting, and molding; while delivering a first-rate simulation-focused education and research experience. The program is designed to advance the safety and practice of healthcare education by providing learners with an environment where they can learn and practice skills before ever using them on a patient.

Upon completion of this program, Simulation Fellows will gain experience in simulation education theory and practice as well as develop their own technical skills through an array of simulation and research activities.



Drs. Eduardo de Santibañes, FACS (hon), ASA (hon), Martin Palavecino, WISH Fellow, 2019-2020, Carlos Pellegrini, Department of Surgery Chair, 1993-2015, at the 2018 ACS Annual Meeting Presidential Dinner.

WELCOME NEW FACULTY

Surgery News

It is with great pleasure we announce and welcome our new faculty members. Each new faculty member introduces an added level of experience, quality, and service to the Department of Surgery.



SCOTT BRAKENRIDGE, MD

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
DIVISION OF TRAUMA, BURN &
CRITICAL CARE SURGERY

Dr. Brakenridge returns to UW as an Associate Professor of Surgery in the Division of Trauma, Burn & Critical Care Surgery. Born and raised in Chicago, Dr. Brakenridge earned his medical degree from Rush Medical College in 2004. He then completed his general surgery residency at UT Southwestern/Parkland Memorial Hospital where he also was a Clinical Research Scholar in the Department of Clinical Sciences. After completing a Trauma/Surgical Critical Care fellowship at Harborview Medical Center, Dr. Brakenridge was a faculty member at the University of Florida, where he was an active acute care surgeon and surgical intensivist, tenured investigator and center Core Leader for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) funded UF Sepsis and Critical Illness Research Center (SCIRC). Since 2014, Dr. Brakenridge's research has been funded by the NIH, and he was recently granted an R35 award from National Institute of General Medical Sciences to continue his research program on clinical, translational, and precision medicine approaches to understand the role of persistent inflammation as a driver of chronic immunosuppression and acute muscle wasting after severe trauma and surgical sepsis. Outside of work, Dr. Brakenridge enjoys all outdoor activities with his wife, Jillianne, and two sons Bryce (8) and Ryan (3).



SCOTT DEROO, MD

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR
DIVISION OF CARDIOTHORACIC SURGERY

Dr. DeRoo attended Colgate University in upstate New York where he completed his undergraduate degree in molecular biology and was a three-season athlete competing in both cross-country and track and field. After completing his undergraduate degree, Dr. DeRoo spent a year at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute investigating the molecular pathogenesis of leukemia and lymphoma before matriculating to the University of Michigan Medical School. While there he completed a research fellowship through the Howard-Hughes Medical Institute with a focus on genetics and genomics and was elected to the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society. Following medical school graduation, Dr. DeRoo completed an integrated cardiothoracic surgery residency at Columbia University in New York City, while also pursuing a one-year research fellowship in outcomes research. Upon completion of his residency, he spent a year at the University of Pennsylvania as an advanced fellow in aortic surgery where he focused on both open and endovascular treatment of complex aortic disease including pathology of the aortic root, valve, ascending aorta, arch, and descending thoracic aorta. Dr. DeRoo is excited to join the faculty at UW and help expand both the general cardiac and aortic surgery programs. Outside of the hospital Dr. DeRoo enjoys spending time camping, hiking, cycling, and skiing, and is excited to explore the Pacific Northwest. He is joined at UW with his wife, Dr. Emily Wang, a cardiac anesthesiologist.



Lobby of 9th and Jefferson Building at UW Medicine Harborview Medical Center



CHRISTINA GREENE, MD

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

DIVISION OF CARDIOTHORACIC SURGERY

Dr. Greene is a congenital heart surgeon joining UW from Boston Children's Hospital. Originally from Los Angeles, CA, she completed her undergraduate studies at Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Boston, then returned

home for medical school at the Keck School of Medicine at the University of Southern California. She remained in California for general surgery residency at LAC+USC, then during her research years transferred to Stanford University's I-6 Cardiac program which she completed in 2019. She continued to Boston Children's Hospital to train with Dr. Pedro del Nido for her congenital fellowship from 2019-2021 immediately prior to joining us.

Dr. Greene's research interests center around the genetics of congenital heart disease with a focus on growing human tissue. She will be starting a cardiac tissue bank at Seattle Children's Hospital (SCH) with many opportunities for translational research. Dr. Greene plans to practice the full breadth of congenital heart surgery and hopes to establish a biventricular repair program at SCH. She is very excited to join her new partners and explore the Pacific Northwest. Dr. Greene joins us with her husband, Andy, and their two young daughters, Quinn and Callie.



RACHEL LENTZ, MD, MHS

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

DIVISION OF PLASTIC SURGERY

Dr. Lentz is excited to join the Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery at the University of Washington. Originally from New Jersey, she received her bachelor's degree in the History of Science and Medicine at Yale University, where she was also a

member of the varsity field hockey team. She remained at Yale for medical school, earning her medical degree and master's degree in Health Science. Dr. Lentz then completed

an integrated plastic surgery residency at the University of California, San Francisco, followed by a microsurgery fellowship at the University of Southern California.

Dr. Lentz's primary clinical interests include oncologic and traumatic reconstruction, limb salvage, and the surgical management of lymphedema.

Outside of work, Dr. Lentz enjoys running, cooking, podcasts, and exploring the Pacific Northwest with her partner, Sean.



SHANE MORRISON, MD, MS

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

DIVISION OF PLASTIC SURGERY

Dr. Morrison is a plastic and reconstructive surgeon with specialized training in gender affirmation surgery. He grew up in Tucson, Arizona where he completed his undergraduate and master's degree in Biochemistry at the

University of Arizona. Prior to medical school, Dr. Morrison explored protein engineering research in Switzerland as a Fulbright Scholar. During his six years in medical school at Stanford, Dr. Morrison studied wound healing as a Howard Hughes Medical Institute Medical Research Fellow and worked on healthcare policy in Kosovo as a Boren Fellow. It was in medical school where his passion for "surgical justice" and gender affirmation arose. He completed his plastic surgery residency at the University of Washington and did further specialized training in gender affirmation surgery at the University of Michigan and Ghent University Hospital in Belgium. Dr. Morrison is excited to offer gender-affirming surgery to the adolescent and adult populations in the Pacific Northwest. His research interests are in surgical and patient-reported outcomes in gender-affirming surgery.

Outside of work you can find him and his wife, Dr. Kathleen Berfield, on their Peloton, gardening, or lounging with their cats.

WELCOME NEW FACULTY (CONT.)

Surgery News



ISAAC STEIN, MD

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

DIVISION OF PLASTIC SURGERY

Dr. Stein is a plastic and reconstructive surgeon with a clinical focus on oncologic reconstruction of the breast, trunk, and extremities. He is excited to join the excellent team of reconstructive surgeons at UW-Montlake and UW-Northwest campuses.

Dr. Stein grew up in Kalamazoo, MI, and remained in the Midwest to attend college at Washington University in St. Louis. A keen interest in science and a love of developing interpersonal relationships brought him back home to the University of Michigan for medical school, where he developed a passion for the complex problems solved by plastic surgeons. Dr. Stein then came to the University of Washington for plastic surgery residency and has called Seattle home ever since. He is looking forward to remaining in the UW family and collaborating with other surgical services to offer excellent patient care to the growing and changing patient population. As a former UW resident, he hopes to be an integral part of resident education and continue the tradition of excellence for the next generation of trainees.

When not working, Dr. Stein enjoys everything the beautiful Pacific Northwest has to offer with his wife, Emily, husky, Pippa, and their friends.



Dr. Otway Louie, Assoc. Professor and Section Chief, UWMC Center for Reconstructive Surgery
Surgery Pavilion Spiral Staircase at UW Medical Center

FACULTY PROMOTIONS



**JEFFREY
AVANSINO, MD, MBA**

PROMOTED TO PROFESSOR
DIVISION OF GENERAL SURGERY

Dr. [Avansino](#) is a pediatric general surgeon in the Division of Pediatric General and Thoracic Surgery and practices at Seattle Children's Hospital (SCH). He began his practice in the Department of Surgery (DOS)

in 2008 and promoted to Associate Professor in 2013. Dr. Avansino is an active participant in the SCH Pediatric Surgical Fellowship Program, as well as teaching the General Surgery residents in the OR, clinic, wards, and emergency department. His clinical interests include anorectal malformations and Hirschsprung disease, and he is the founder and past Director of the SCH Reconstructive Pelvic Medicine Program. His research interests center on anorectal malformations, continuous process improvement, and quality. Dr. Avansino is a member of [Colorectal Team Overseas](#) that provides education to providers and surgical care to children with pediatric colorectal anomalies. In addition, he is on the medical board of directors for the Pull-Through Network, co-Chair for the Pediatric Colorectal and Pelvic Learning Consortium (PCPLC), and Vice President and Medical Director of Surgical Services, Associate Surgeon in Chief.



KRISTINE CALHOUN, MD

PROMOTED TO PROFESSOR
DIVISION OF GENERAL SURGERY

Dr. [Calhoun](#) is a general surgeon in the Division of General Surgery and practices at Seattle Cancer Care Alliance (SCCA) in South Lake Union. Dr. Calhoun sees patients with both benign and cancerous breast conditions, and in 2005 when

she joined DOS was the first female breast surgeon at the SCCA. Dr. Calhoun was promoted to Associate Professor in 2010, and in partnership with the plastic surgeons, has been innovative in the area of oncoplastics, as well as the arena of lymphedema, where she serves as primary investigator of

Surgery News

a study to detect and treat lymphedema development after axillary lymph node surgery. In 2007, she was a graduate of the Medical Education and Biomedical Informatics Teaching Scholars Program. Dr. Calhoun's education roles have since included: Associate Director of the SCCA Breast Health Center, Chair of the Department of Surgery Medical Student Surgical Career Counseling Committee, DOS Director of Medical Student Surgical Education, University of Washington School of Medicine Admissions Executive Committee Member, and Clerkship Site Director for UW third-year medical students. Dr. Calhoun was the recipient of the [2020 UW School of Medicine Award for Excellence in Mentoring Women Faculty](#).



PATRICK JAVID, MD

PROMOTED TO PROFESSOR
DIVISION OF PEDIATRIC GENERAL SURGERY

Dr. [Javid](#) is a pediatric general surgeon in the Division of Pediatric General Surgery and practices at SCH. He began his practice in DOS in 2008 and promoted to Associate Professor in 2014. His primary clinical responsibility is Surgical

Director of the Intestinal Rehabilitation Program at SCH, as well as primary surgeon in the multidisciplinary Intestinal Failure Clinic. This program's national stature led Dr. Javid to serve on the Committee on Evidence-Based Guidelines for Pediatric Intestinal Failure for the American Society of Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition (ASPEN). His research interests include the clinical and translational study of pediatric intestinal failure. Most recently, his research team has been studying long-term clinical outcomes in pediatric intestinal failure including an ongoing assessment of the quality of life of the child and the family.

FACULTY PROMOTIONS (CONT.)

Surgery News

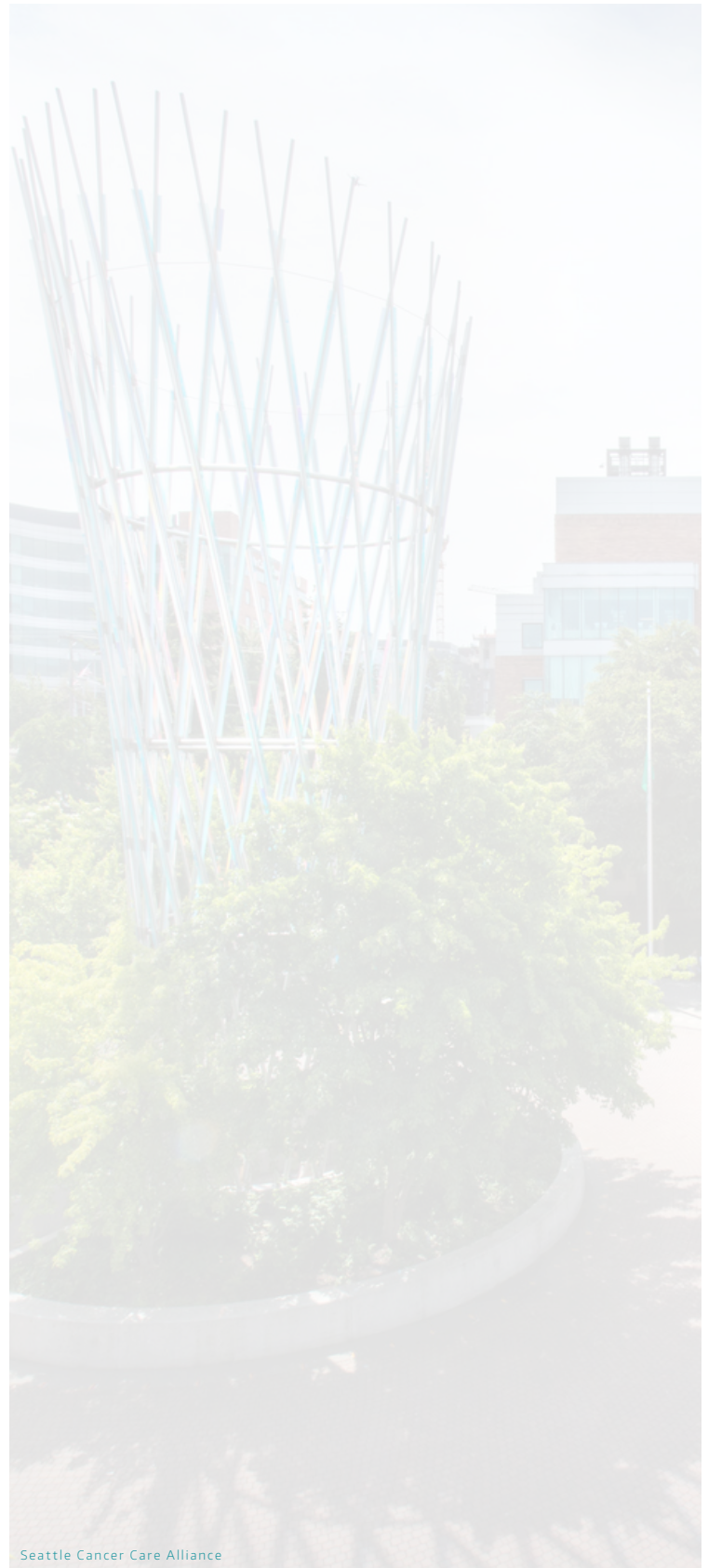


SRINIVAS SUSARLA, MD, DMD, MPH

**PROMOTED TO
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR**
DIVISION OF PLASTIC SURGERY

Dr. **Susarla** is a plastic, oral/ maxillofacial and craniofacial surgeon at SCH. He is one of the few craniofacial surgeons in the country who is board certified in both

plastic surgery and oral/maxillofacial surgery. Dr. Susarla joined the DOS in 2017 and his clinical practice focuses on pediatric and adult craniomaxillofacial reconstructive surgery, including management of craniosynostosis, cleft lip and palate, dentofacial deformities, maxillofacial pathology, and primary and secondary reconstruction following facial trauma. He serves as a mentor for plastic surgery residents as well as oral and maxillofacial surgery residents. Dr. Susarla has also organized a series of evening sessions for junior faculty preparing to take their written and oral board exams. He is the site director of the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery rotation at SCH and is solely responsible for the curriculum and didactic program. Dr. Susarla's research interests are primarily focused on clinical outcomes in craniomaxillofacial surgery. His work is in collaboration with the Craniofacial Image Analysis Laboratory (CranIAL) within the Division of Plastic and Craniofacial Surgery at SCH and the Center for Applied Clinical Investigation within the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at the University of Washington School of Dentistry. His secondary research interests are related to medical/dental education and measures of academic productivity within Plastic and Maxillofacial Surgery.



Seattle Cancer Care Alliance

Surgery

News

72ND ANNUAL DR. ALFRED A. STRAUSS LECTURE & 2021 HARKINS SURGICAL SYMPOSIUM



Dr. Henri Ford

The Annual Dr. Alfred A. Strauss Lecture was held October 8, 2021 with invited lecturer Dr. Henri Ford, Dean and Chief Academic Officer, University of Miami, Leonard M. Miller School of Medicine. His lecture was titled "The Imperative for Diversity in Academic Surgery."

Dr. Ford is a Haitian-born pediatric surgeon who returns regularly to Haiti to provide medical care to its residents. In May 2015, he performed the first successful separation of conjoined twins in Haiti, alongside surgeons he helped train.

Motivated by a desire to have a positive impact on the world and drive change, Dr. Ford has conducted groundbreaking research on the pathogenesis of necrotizing enterocolitis and has been funded by the NIH and the RWJ Foundation, among others. He is the author of multiple publications, book chapters, invited manuscripts, abstracts, and presentations.

Dr. Ford is a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons, the Royal College of Surgeons (England), the American Association for the Surgery of Trauma, and the American Academy of Pediatrics. He received his bachelor's degree in public and international affairs from Princeton University and his MD from Harvard Medical School. He is the recipient of numerous honors, including the Gold Humanism in Medicine Award from the AAMC. Dr. Ford is a member of the Board of Regents of the American College of Surgeons. He is past President of the Society of Black Academic Surgeons, the Association for Academic Surgery, the Surgical Infections Society and the American Pediatric Surgical Association.

2021 HARKINS' SURGICAL SYMPOSIUM SPEAKERS

**Dr. Sara Zettervall, Assistant Professor,
Division of Vascular Surgery**

"Long-Term Outcomes Following Fenestrated and Branched Repair of Juxtarenal and Thoracoabdominal Aneurysms"

**Dr. Matthew Smith, Clinical Assistant Professor,
Division of Vascular Surgery**

"Audible Bleeding Podcast - Vascular Surgery"

**Dr. Michael Lallemand, Division, MAJ, MC, USA,
Trauma, Critical Care, and Acute Care Surgery,
Madigan Army Medical Center**

"We Lost Pulses on the Pad: Rethinking Time as an Indicator for Resuscitative Thoracotomy"

**Dr. Harveshp Mogal, Associate Professor,
Division of General Surgery**

"Role of HIPEC in Treatment of Peritoneal Malignancy"

**Dr. Michelle Cowan, Associate Professor,
Division of General Surgery**

"Role of Endoscopy in Surgical Education"

**Dr. Sarah Atkinson, Assistant Professor,
Division of General Surgery**

"Choosing a Residency During the COVID-19 Pandemic"

Surgery News

2021 HARKINS SURGICAL SYMPOSIUM SPEAKERS (CONT.)

**Dr. Kristine Calhoun, Professor,
Division of General Surgery**

*"Addressing the Leaky Pipeline: An Update From the
Department of Surgery Women's Council"*

**Dr. Lara Oyetunji, Assistant Professor,
Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery**

"Impacts of Race on Cardiovascular Disease"

**Dr. Henri Ford, Dean and Chief Academic Officer,
University of Miami, Leonard M. Miller School of Medicine**

*HARKINS LECTURE—"Reflections on the Making of
an Academic Surgeon: My Personal Journey"*

**Dr. Scott Brakenridge, Associate Professor,
Division of Trauma, Burn & Critical Care Surgery**

"Surgical Sepsis Update: What the Surgeon Needs to Know..."

**Dr. Sara Rasmussen, Associate Professor,
Division of Transplant Surgery**

*"Pediatric Liver Transplant: Strategies for
Stretching a Limited Resource"*

**Dr. David Rothstein, Professor,
Division of Pediatric General Surgery**

*"Where Do They Go From Here? Transition of
Care from Pediatric to Adult Surgery"*

**Dr. Maziar Khorrsandi, Assistant Professor,
Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery**

*"Low Ejection Fraction Coronary Revascularization:
Treating an Underserved Population"*

**Dr. Jeffrey Keenan, Assistant Professor,
Division of Transplant Surgery**

"Modern Circulatory Support: Evolving Tools and Strategies"

**Dr. Colette Inaba, Clinical Assistant Professor,
Division of General Surgery**

"Personal Finance: An Introduction for Residents"

■ Dr. Nicole Gibran Retires

**Dr. Ron Maier, Professor & Chief
Kira Martin, Administrator**

Division of Trauma, Burn & Critical Care Surgery

Dr. Nicole Gibran, Professor, Division of Trauma, Burn and Critical Care Surgery, retired on July 31st, 2021. It was hard for me to see her go, to imagine Harborview Medical Center and the UW Medicine Regional Burn Center without her, even though she gave us two years' notice and stayed even longer to tie up loose ends at R&T! I think this was the case with many of us, really each of us who have worked closely with her – whether fellow faculty, administrative staff, UW Regional Burn Center multidisciplinary team members, residents, fellows, researchers or visiting scholars. She left an indelible impression on each person she interacted with, every patient and family member she cared for. Dr. Gibran instilled fear, awe, admiration and



Top: Nicole Gibran's lab research team

Bottom: Nicole Gibran at the microscope with Dr. Ravi Sood

Surgery

News

ultimately love and respect in those that were fortunate enough to benefit from her tutelage, her at times scathing (yet on point) feedback, her wit and her unwavering dedication and passion for excellence, innovation and achievement in her profession and in her daily work.

We influence people every day by what we say and do, by what we write, create and share. And all of that influence adds up. Dr. Gibran has gained most of her creativity and energy from her husband, Dr. Frank Isik, and her two sons, Alexander and Oliver; from these individuals she has learned her most valuable life lessons. When asked what she is most proud of, Dr. Gibran shared, *"By far my most significant accomplishment is my children who are kind, caring and on their respective career paths. After that I would say that I am most proud of team building. Whether it be in the burn center, the R&T radiation remediation project or*

the ABA Burn Quality consensus project (which launched the ABA BQIP program) I have managed to bring people who otherwise have different priorities and viewpoints to work as a team."

Dr. Gibran completed her MD degree at Boston University School of Medicine and continued through her surgery residency at Boston University. She completed Burn and Intensive Care, NIH Post-Doctoral Trauma and Burns, and Northwest Burn Foundation Research Fellowships at the University of Washington. Dr. Gibran's independent professional career has been in the UW Medicine Department of Surgery and the UW Medicine Regional Burn Center at Harborview Medical Center, which she directed since 2002. Dr. Gibran ran a very successful NIH-funded research program at Harborview throughout her career (26 years of continuous federal funding is nothing to sneeze at!), allowing her to provide research experiences for many undergraduate students, medical students, residents and fellows as they launched their own careers. She has been deeply committed to the culture and work of the Harborview community for the entirety of her professional life.

Dr. Gibran's clinical expertise is in burn injury, critical care, and wound healing. Her research includes genetic influences on scarring and long-term recovery after burn injury. She served as the President of the American Burn Association (ABA) and on the American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma and the Board of the NTI. In 2018 Dr. Gibran announced her decision to step down as the Director of the Regional Burn Center and from patient care activities to focus on research, accepting the position of Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Education, Harborview Medical Center. *"Transitioning from Director of the UW Medicine Regional Burn Center to Associate Dean for Research was never something that I imagined. I welcome the opportunity to engage with faculty and administration to enrich and highlight our exemplary Harborview Medical Center based research programs."* Little did she know then that her new position would catapult her into an intense, stressful and unrelenting multi-year response to a radiation leak at the Harborview Research & Training (R&T) building on May 3rd, 2019, heightened by the COVID-19 pandemic's impact on research activities across all UW campuses.



Top: 1992 submitted by Marcia Usui, Dr. Gibran's 'lab mom' – *"You constantly juggled SO many hats and impacted so many young minds!"*

Bottom: submitted by May Reed – *"This is going WAAAAAY back, but hopefully this picture reminds you of fun times in the Sage Lab as postdocs. I still don't know how you managed to always look so nice!"*

Surgery News

Over 200 research employees and 35 Principal Investigators and their labs were required to relocate. An article published in *The Stranger* summarizes, “Dozens of PIs across UW’s sprawling campus volunteered to share their lab space with displaced researchers. Gibran has tried to match R&T researchers with other PIs doing similar work to ensure they’ll have the necessary equipment. But these shared lab spaces still needed equipment and biological samples that were trapped inside the R&T building. Gibran worked with the DOE and cleanup crews to schedule escorted trips inside the building so researchers could grab what they needed to get started. Employees had only 90 minutes.” Dr. Gibran worked tirelessly for two years to manage the aftermath, transition and reopening of the R&T building. Her distinct personality traits – unwavering dedication, no nonsense leadership, clear communication and an unrelenting drive for excellence, allowed the research communities at Harborview to survive the shut-down, recover and ultimately start to thrive again, during a period of unbelievable tumultuousness and uncertainty.

In closing, I would like to highlight several notes, memories and thoughts on Dr. Gibran shared by the many individuals she deeply and positively impacted over the years. Her current transition has triggered memories of her career over the years. She states, “I had the privilege of knowing so many patients and their families who trusted me to care for them. And that feels like an honor. In my garden I have three welded garden frogs that a grateful patient made for me - I shared two more with Beth Costa whom he also appreciated. For me they represent constant reminder of my clinical contributions.”

“Thank you so much for navigating these past two tumultuous years when R&T went down, the pandemic hit, and bringing the building back online again. Your straightforward communication and leadership have been a godsend for me in trying to herd the cats back into building again. I really could not have done it without your help. I’ll miss the leadership and tenacity you brought to the table within the School of Medicine.” – **Kim Wisecup, Manager, Space Planning & Management, Office of Facilities, UW Medicine**

“Thank you for your tremendous example, leadership, and devotion to teaching and mentorship as just one piece of your amazing career. You were the first faculty member to interview me so many years ago and have provided such sage advice many times over the years that has aided me and my career.” – **Dr. Deborah Marquardt, Assistant Professor, VA Puget Sound Health Care System**

“A few years back when I first saw you do a burn case, I thought: ‘Wow! This person knows the value of doing things as well as they can be done. Your attention to detail in the OR, the lab and in the conference room has served the Burn Community and more importantly, our patients well.’” – **Dr. Hugh Foy, Professor Emeritus, Department of Surgery**

“I’ve always appreciated your candor, sense of humor, and ability to get things done.” – **Mike Stanislaus, Director, School of Medicine, Chief Business Office**

“I am thankful to have worked with you both as a trainee and as a colleague. I learned a tremendous amount from you, much of which is now incorporated into my own teaching. Your pioneering path

in burns and more recently in the rehab of the R&T building has been inspiring to witness. Thank you so much for your time, your teaching and your honest and unvarnished takes on the world around you.” – **Dr. Jeffrey Friedrich, Professor, Division of Plastic Surgery**

“I met you as a Burn Fellow and watched as you became the Burn Center Director and first female ABA President. I was often approached at the ABA and the ISBI and asked...” Do you really know Dr. Nicole Gibran? Does she talk to you?” I was and will always be proud to be one of your battle-axes. I’m proud to know you as a mentor and friend. You have enriched more lives than you will ever know.” – **Kathy Espey, RN, Burn/Pediatric Unit, Harborview Medical Center**

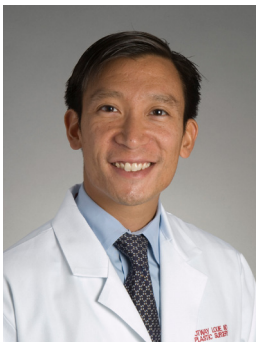
“We R&T investigators were well served by your surgeon instincts, taking command of the situation, making quick decisions, and getting things done. You were an exemplary leader, and our many thanks don’t do justice to the job that you did.” – **Dr. Nick Poolos, Professor, Department of Neurology**

“I have watched you with awe as you have succeeded as a surgeon, scientist, clinician, administrator and leader. Our interactions and collaborations were always productive and fun.” – **Dr. John Olerud, Professor Emeritus, Department of Dermatology**

Surgery News

Dr. Otway Louie Named Section Chief of Plastic Surgery

Dr. Nicholas Vedder
*Professor & Chief,
Division of Plastic Surgery*



Dr. Otway Louie was named UWMC Section Chief, Division of Plastic Surgery. Dr. Louie has served as Interim Section Chief since January 1, 2021, replacing Dr. Peter Neligan who held the position for 13 years before his retirement. Otway is an outstanding clinician, teacher, academician, leader, administrator, and friend. He will do an outstanding job carrying forward the culture of excellence and collaboration that has defined our group over the years. Having been a faculty member since 2008, we are impressed with his deep knowledge of the UWMC Section of Plastic Surgery as well as his insight into the opportunities for growth, collaboration, and support of other services across the institution, with a special interest in integration and optimization of services between UW Medical Center – Montlake and UW Medical Center – Northwest. We wish to personally welcome and thank Otway for his commitment to this important role. We look forward to his excellent leadership.

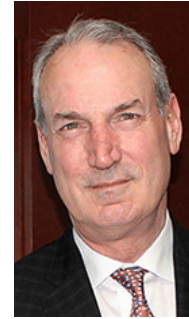
American College of Surgeons/Society of Thoracic Surgeons Verification Program in General Thoracic Surgery

Dr. Farhood Farjah
*Endowed Chair in Lung Cancer Research
Associate Professor,
Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery
Associate Medical Director,
Surgical Outcomes Research Center*

The University of Washington (UW) Section of Thoracic Surgery is the second program in the nation to participate in the American College of Surgeons/Society of Thoracic Surgeons Verification Program in General Thoracic Surgery. This new program is a quality improvement initiative modelled from similar programs for trauma and bariatric surgery. A key feature of verification programs is to help surgeons obtain the necessary resources to provide the highest quality care.

Verification involves a set of standards and a site visit every three years. The standards include structures and processes of care as well as a requirement for programs to use benchmarked, risk-adjusted outcomes to drive practice change. Site visitors evaluate prepared documents, interview various stakeholders, and review redacted patient records to determine compliance with standards.

Members of the UW Section of Thoracic Surgery who helped develop the verification for General Thoracic Surgery include Drs. **Douglas E. Wood** (above left), The Henry N. Harkins Professor and Chair and **Farhood Farjah** (above right), Endowed Chair in Lung Cancer Research, Associate Professor of Surgery, Division of



Cardiothoracic Surgery, Associate Medical Director, Surgical Outcomes Research Center, partnered with Drs. Lisa Brown (University of California Davis) and Mark Allen (Mayo Clinic) to draft, vet, and revise the standards in close collaboration with Drs. David Hoyt and Clifford Ko from the American College of Surgeons. These standards were evaluated by designees from various allied professional societies (e.g. pulmonary medicine, gastroenterology, anesthesiology, etc.) and surgeons working in non-academic settings. Dr. Brown and her team were the first to volunteer as a pilot site. The next step for the Verification Program is to pilot the process at non-academic medical centers.

The Verification Program determined that the UW Section of Thoracic Surgery is compliant with standards. Opportunities for improvement were identified, as were the additional resources needed to realize these opportunities. The UW will continue to play an ongoing leadership role in the deployment of this new national quality improvement initiative.

2021 Department of Surgery Surgical Ethics Conference

On August 4, 2021, the University of Washington's (UW) Department of Surgery's (DOS) Center for Surgical Ethics hosted its 4th annual conference with great success. Due to the pandemic, the conference was transitioned to a completely virtual format offering a combination of both synchronous and asynchronous presentations.

The Surgical Ethics Conference is offered annually in partnership with the [Department of Bioethics and Humanities'](#) longstanding Summer Seminar event and is specifically devoted to topics of special interest to surgeons, anesthesiologists, surgical nurses, as well as residents and fellows of all surgical specialties.

Each year, the conference aims to define ethical principles and concepts as well as provide a toolbox for ethical conflict resolution. Participants are provided with the history, foundations, and principles of Surgical Ethics including information to enable participants to make competent ethical decisions when confronted in their everyday surgical practice.

The UW DOS's Center for Surgical Ethics holds at its core a mission to improve the health of the public by promoting the highest standards of ethical care in surgery. It aims to elevate the ethical delivery of surgical care and promote education and scholarship within and beyond UW Medicine.

This year's conference highlighted timely topics facing surgeons today including, "Ethical Leadership in Times of a Pandemic" (presented by **Christopher Ellison**, MD, FAVC, MAMSE), "Organ Shortage in Transplantation" (presented by **Martin Montenovo**, MD, FACS), and "Black Lives Matter: The Ethics of Knowing Surgical Outcomes by Race" (presented by **Jason Keune**, MD, MBA, FACS).



The 2021 Surgical Ethics Conference, hosted by Center leadership **Alberto Ferreres**, MD, PhD, FACS (Hon.), ASA (Hon.) (above left), **Denise Dudzinski**, PhD, HEC-C, (above center) and **Douglas E. Wood**, MD, FACS, FRCSEd, (above right) attracted participants from across the globe from a wide array of professional backgrounds including both surgical patient care and non-clinical roles.

Visit [Center for Surgical Ethics](#) for information regarding the 2021 Surgical Ethics Conference and how to get involved.



UW Medicine Research at South Lake Union



#GETTING TOKNOWDOS

Dr. Shannon Colohan

Associate Professor

Division of Plastic Surgery

Why Did You Decide to Specialize In Plastic Surgery?

SC: I came into medical school thinking of doing general surgery as I'd worked with some liver transplant surgeons doing research and running a clinical trial starting in undergrad. My first surgical experience was flying to Newfoundland on a Leer Jet for organ retrieval and getting to suture at the end of the harvest (super exciting for pre-med student!). In medical school I did a 1-year longitudinal observership with a surgical oncologist and really felt this was my future. However, when I did a third-year clerkship rotation in plastic surgery I really found myself enjoying it. I quickly realized it would be possible to have a surgical career that would still allow me to work with cancer patients, but that also deals with the reconstructive aspects of this care, which appealed as it allowed more surgical creativity/artistry to custom tailor reconstructive options for patients to fit their needs.

What Do You Believe Is A Major Obstacle in Surgical Medicine Today?

SC: Access. I think in surgical medicine, access is a big issue for both trainees who want to pursue this as a career, as well as for patients who need our care. For example, getting into medical school and training, as well as being able to pursue the career you want can be challenging. It's important to help us

diversify the type of students/residents we recruit into surgical training, and we should focus on helping them to overcome barriers to achieve this. As a surgeon, the challenges I face are often times my patients' access to care that is covered by their insurance. I trained in a Canadian system, so this wasn't really an issue I dealt with, given our universal healthcare. I like to be a patient advocate, and it's frustrating that insurance is not more willing to cover procedures that really make a difference. The criteria they use for approval of some surgeries is particularly stringent and based on very old/poorly done research. For example, an issue we deal with commonly in our oncologic reconstructive practice is the surgical management of lymphedema. There are surgical options for this which are demonstrated in the literature to be successful (and many were pioneered by our own Dr. Neligan), but insurance companies are still considering them experimental, and they're largely not covering it. It's very frustrating to see a cancer patient pay out of pocket for an operation to help them deal with a problem that resulted from their cancer treatment.

What Do You Believe Could Be A Reality in Surgical Medicine But Isn't?

SC: A lot of surgical innovation involves technology, which usually requires large capital budgets for the purchase of high-end equipment. For example, we do a lot

of microsurgery, and with our increasing performance of super microsurgery (e.g., lymphatic surgery), this requires more powerful microscopes, and equipment for angiography to map out lymphatics and assess perfusion. I also believe we could do some of our surgeries robotically and there is talk of some of us getting additional training for this.

As an aside, the University of Washington (UW) is a very progressive institution for technology and technological advancements. I believe our group is always on the cusp of trying new things. We try to get the equipment so we can try new techniques to incorporate into our practice.



Microsurgical concentration
(photo credit: Dr. Geoff Cook)

#GETTING TOKNOWDOS

Dr. Shannon Colohan



Top photo: (back) Anne Chapin (PA-C), Shannon Colohan, Otway Louie, Suzie Inchauste, Shirley Taylor (ARNP); (front) Duane Wang, Stephen Viviano (micro fellow), Sarah Goldsberry-Long, Hakim Said

Bottom photo: (back) Drs. Alexander Gougoutas, Peter Neligan, Hakim Said; (front) Shannon Colohan, Otway Louie, Ted Kung (micro fellow)

Who Do You Admire Most and Why?

SC: Hands down, Dr. Peter Neligan who retired last year from the Department of Surgery. I came to UW as my first job out of training and I was mentored by a giant in plastic surgery! It was a gift, and I was very fortunate. Dr. Neligan's gift comes from not having ego and not creating hierarchy in his team. I believe a lot of UW surgeons didn't realize how globally known he was (and still is) for his craft, and what he's done for plastic surgery simply because he is so humble and considerate. He would be just as likely as any of us to get up and do a case at 2:00 am or just do what was needed to get the

job done. His mantra was "never say no" and he would always fit in patients who needed to be seen or do operations that needed to be done because "it was the right thing to do." I believe that because of that, he really engendered a strong team spirit when he started at UW and worked hard to build a great group of collegial folks. For example, when recruiting/hiring other plastic surgeons or clinic team members, he always insisted that our whole group cast a "unanimous vote" in order to hire that person. Promoting a family environment within the work team makes work as well as life so much more enjoyable. I admire his leadership

style, but I also admire his surgical skill and innovation for pioneering so much in plastic surgery, including his more recent work in developing lymphedema treatments. He was on the forefront of many surgical achievements throughout his career. I miss him a lot.

Which Life Event Was Most Impactful to You?

SC: I had cancer (intra-abdominal/spinal column neuroblastoma) when I was one, and it necessitated a series of treatments including surgery, chemotherapy and radiation therapy. It set a course where I needed frequent follow-up with physicians and was exposed to surgical environments as I ended up needing two spinal fusions at age 16 and 21 for painful curvature related to my prior treatments. I feel it brought me to a greater level of understanding for what it is to go through many different medical/surgical experiences. These experiences fortified my desire to practice medicine and surgery including drawing me to surgical oncology and to patients going through various cancer treatments. I feel like I have a lot of empathy which is enriched by my experiences. I don't remember the treatments I underwent when I was a baby, but I feel like the subsequent medical experiences I had as a result of this life event put me on a course



Dr. Shannon Colohan - age 5
(from Dr. Colohan's Canadian citizenship card)

#GETTING TOKNOWDOS

Dr. Shannon Colohan

in life that enabled me to understand what people could be going through. The emotions related to getting through treatments, surgeries, and the family dynamic that plays out when there's medical stress within one's family is something I understand. That's been very impactful on both my professional career and the closeness I feel with my own family who have always been so supportive.

What Is Your Biggest Regret?

SC: It's funny because I ask people this question during our resident/fellow interviews! In general, I'm not a regretful person. I think everything good or bad in life, at least in my life, happened for a reason. I have this faith everything works out no matter what the bumps in the road are along the way. I tend to not hold regret because that makes me question or doubt my own decision making or my own gut feeling about things. I trust my gut feelings.

On a deeply personal level, I do have regret about not looking into fertility treatments sooner in life. I had not realized the impact my prior cancer therapies as well as my delaying this phase to late 30s would have. It's a very hard emotional adjustment when one is used to working hard and succeeding, only to fail (over and over again) at something you really want. So, despite the fact that I generally hold this part of my life very private, I am trying to be more open about it to help my female trainees understand that it may be useful to explore this at an earlier age, especially because women do tend to put off family building until later due to training. Sadly, the rates of infertility among female surgeons are

not insignificant. I think we owe it to our future generation to educate them, and to fight for things like insurance coverage. It's frustrating (and somewhat ironic) that working for Starbucks or tech companies affords you insurance coverage of what are very expensive procedures but being a healthcare provider does not!

What Do You Consider to Be Your Greatest Accomplishment?

SC: I'm the Assistant Program Director and Site Director for the University of Washington Medical Center. In this role, I'm involved in resident education which includes working on teams and committees with residents restructuring our curriculum. It's been very impactful for me to work directly with residents. This year, I was honored to receive the newly established "Educator of the Year Award," which was presented to me at the chiefs' graduation ceremony. I was very humbled as it was completely unexpected. I love what I do so I am very appreciative for the recognition.

What Do You Find Most Satisfying in Life?

SC: Honestly, I think seeing that people around me are happy! I'm a "people pleaser" by nature, which is where the artistic side of what I do is so rewarding. For example, I love to see whether a patient is appreciative or happy with their surgical results. I also love to see a resident feel proud of their work or progress as a result of the training/teaching we provide. Seeing other people succeed or experience happiness is what makes me feel validated and good about life.

Tell Us Something About Yourself Nobody Knows.

SC: When I started here, I made it a mission to learn more musical instruments in my spare time. I took cello lessons for my first several years in Seattle, and now I'm taking oboe lessons. My team knows when I have a lesson because I'll be scrambling to finish cases to make a lesson on time. It can be difficult to juggle the lessons and more importantly practicing (!) while being a surgeon. It's given me a lot of joy outside of work because it's another artistic outlet I love. I am also known for seeing just about every concert/musical that comes to town. I especially adore Christmas concerts, and love my annual trip to the Seattle Men's Chorus show with my girlfriends. It's been sad that this has taken a hiatus during the pandemic, as it is a real source of joy!

SS: Did you play musical instruments while growing up?

SC: I played violin for about a year and piano for several years—I still play piano. I also played tenor saxophone, and I was in the school band as well as a regional jazz band. I also sang in choir, including during medical school. Some people are sporty—I'm more on the artistic-musical spectrum. I'm the kid that went to music theatre camp growing up!

Do You Have Pet Peeves?

SC: I don't like disingenuous people. I prefer to make real connections with people and share details with them back and forth. I probably share too much about myself in my interactions, but I honestly feel like it is how I relate to my patients and colleagues best. I don't like fakeness or people that have to build up who they are when that's not who they truly are inside.

#GETTING TOKNOWDOS

Dr. Shannon Colohan

What's Your Most Memorable Vacation?

SC: I took a year off when I was in residency and earned my master's degree (Epidemiology) in London, England. I had time off before Easter break I decided to quickly throw together a two-week trip to tour Spain and Portugal on my own. I borrowed a classmate's hiking backpack and stayed in hostels in both Spain and Portugal, and kind of made up the details of the trip as I went. It was both exciting and scary because I did it on my own, and I'm normally a super-planner/OCD about things. It was also a bit of a push for me because I would have preferred to travel with someone else, but that is what made it a fun adventure. I met some cool people along the way with whom I'm still friends.

As an aside, my favorite "non-vacation" was my trip to Jimma, Ethiopia with Operation Smile in 2009. In my residency, all 4th year residents got to take a mission trip with one of our faculty. I met some of the most amazing mission volunteers and patients. The cultural immersion was amazing and unforgettable. I got to do several cleft lips (with mentorship/appropriate supervision), including one for a man in his 20s who'd never had his repaired as a child. I did that one under pure local anesthesia, including lip and nose! The smile on his face was unforgettable when we were done!

We operated without air conditioning with 3 operating tables in one big room. There were monkeys perched on the open windowsills as we operated, and even one monkey with cleft lip (no joke!). I also

got to work with our own Raymond Tse (SCH plastic surgery faculty) as he was a mission surgeon who was working in Victoria BC at the time!

What Is the Most Embarrassing Thing You've Experienced?

SC: When I moved to London for the year I earned my master's, I flew a red-eye from Nova Scotia and was going to stay with one of my co-resident's sister until I found a place to live. I landed half asleep at Heathrow Airport lugging two massive suitcases, with instructions on how to take the Tube to the stop where I would meet the girl then we'd walk to her place.

Once you get off the plane, you take escalators down the Tube. I had my two huge suitcases, and I was trying to figure out how to get them on the escalator. I kicked one suitcase in front of me and pulled the other behind. I soon realized I was in trouble at the bottom of the escalator. I attempted to lift the heavy suitcase in front of me over the little lip at the bottom of the escalator, but it didn't work. Then I tried to kick it but lost my balance as the escalator stairs remained in motion and fell backward. I found myself sandwiched between the two suitcases—literally lying on top of one case and the other one on top of me. Meanwhile, there is an entire line of people behind me rushing to leave the airport to get to the Tube. The escalator kept running beneath me, tearing my jogging pants, until someone hit the emergency stop and someone else helped me off the escalator.

I finally get to the Tube station to meet this girl when she informs me, she lives five blocks from the stop. Next, I'm hauling these massive suitcases five blocks. I was exhausted and defeated before even settling into my new city!

Learn more about Dr. Colohan's [surgical practice](#) and [research](#).



Solo backpacking tour of Spain/Portugal - Plaza de Espana (Seville, Spain)

Surgery News

Seattle Met 2021 Top Doctors

Seattle Met and Seattle Magazine announced their 2021 top doctors and we are pleased to share this recognition of selected Department of Surgery (DOS) faculty. Top Doctors is one manner of recognition by the medical community and shows they hold our surgeons in high esteem. Although this is a list of individuals, our surgeons approach their practice in team effort.

Congratulations to our faculty—the Department is honored by your mention. Below is a listing of our faculty recognized this year by their specialty:

BARIATRIC SURGERY

Judy Chen-Meekin, MD, FACS, FASMBS
Saurabh Khandelwal, MD,
FACS, FASMBS

BREAST SURGERY

Christina Blanchette, MPAS, PA-C
Kristine Calhoun, MD, FACS
Lauren DeStefano, MD
Meghan Flanagan, MD, MPH, FACS
Sara Javid, MD, FACS

CANCER SURGERY

David Byrd, MD, FACS
James Park, MD, FACS
Venu Pillarisetty, MD, FACS
Jonathan Sham, MD
Raymond Yeung, MD, FRCS, FACS

CARDIAC SURGERY

Gabriel Aldea, MD, FACS, FACC
Christopher Burke, MD
Shakirat Oyetunji, MD, MPH

COLON/RECTAL SURGERY

Sarah Atkinson, MD
Joy Chen, MD, MS
Michelle Cowan, MD, FASCRS, FACS
Mukta Krane, MD, FACS
Mika Sinanan, MD, PhD, FACS

GENERAL SURGERY

Saman Arbabi, MD, MPH, FACS
Eileen Bulger, MD, FACS
Giana Davidson, MD, MPH, FACS
Janna Gilbert, DNP, ARNP, AGACNP-BC
Daniel Kim, MD
Ronald Maier, MD, FACS
Lisa McIntyre, MD, FACS
Deepika Nehra, MD, FACS
Grant O'Keefe, MD, MPH, FACS
Brant Oelschlager, MD, FACS
Zoe Parr, MD, FRCSC, FACS
Rebecca Petersen, MD, MSc, FACS
Roger Tatum, MD, FACS
Estell Williams, MD
Andrew Wright, MD, FACS

HAND SURGERY

Jeffrey Friedrich, MD, MC, FACS
Nicholas Vedder, MD, FACS

PEDIATRIC SURGERY

Jeffrey Avansino, MD, MBA, FACS
Adam Goldin, MD, MPH, FACS, FAAP
Patrick Healey, MD, FACS
Patrick Javid, MD, FACS, FAAP
Kimberly Riehle, MD, FACS, FAAP
Robert S. Sawin, MD, FACS
Caitlin Smith, MD, FACS
John Waldhausen, MD, FACS

PLASTIC AND RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY

Anne Chapin, PA-C
Shannon Colohan, MD, MSc,
FACS, FRCSC
Jeffrey Friedrich, MD, MC, FACS
Sarah Goldsberry-Long, MD, MS
Richard Hopper, MD, MS, FACS
Suzanne Inchauste, MD
Kari Keys, MD, FACS
Otway Louie, MD
Duane Wang, MD
Nicholas Vedder, MD, FACS

THORACIC SURGERY

Kathleen Berfield, MD
Aaron Cheng, MD, FACS
Farhood Farjah, MD, MPH, FACS
Michael Mulligan, MD, FACS
Douglas E. Wood, MD, FACS, FRCSEd

VASCULAR SURGERY

Mark Meissner, MD
Elina Quiroga, MD, FACS
Niten Singh, MD, FACS
Benjamin Starnes, MD, FACS
Matthew Sweet, MD
Nam Tran, MD, FACS

Honors | Awards | Publications

FACULTY



Dr. **Kathleen Berfield**, Assistant Professor, Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery, Chief of Thoracic Surgery VA Puget Sound Health Care System, was named Chair of the inaugural National Surgery Office Thoracic Surgical Advisory Board (SAB). As Chair, she will lead other Thoracic surgeons within the Veterans Health Administration and serve as subject matter expert to the National Surgery Office and Veterans Health Administration leadership. Dr. Berfield, previously served on the Cardiothoracic Surgery SAB, and started her 3-year term as Chair for Thoracic Surgery on June 1st.



Dr. **Eileen Bulger**, Professor & Chief, Trauma, Division of Trauma, Burn & Critical Care Surgery, was named President Elect of the American Association for the Surgery of Trauma.

"I am honored to have the opportunity to serve in the leadership of the American Association for the Surgery of Trauma (AAST)," said Dr. Bulger. "The AAST is dedicated to discovery, dissemination, implementation, and evaluation of knowledge related to acute care surgery (trauma, surgical critical care, and emergency general surgery) by fostering

research, education, and professional development in an environment of fellowship, collegiality, inclusion, diversity and equity. It is a joy to work side by side with peers who are passionate about advancing the care of the critically ill and injured and supporting the future of our specialty."



Dr. **Jeffrey Friedrich**, Professor, Division of Plastic Surgery, was selected as a member in the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education Residency Review Committee (RRC) for Plastic Surgery. Dr. Friedrich will be setting, maintaining, and monitoring the curricula and standards for the ACGME's Plastic Surgery RRC. As Program Director of the Department of Surgery's Plastic Surgery residency since 2011, he has advanced the department from a coordinated program with nine residents to a fully integrated program with 25 residents currently.



Dr. **Mark Meissner**, Professor, Division of Vascular Surgery, was awarded Vascular Interventional Advances' 2021 VEINS (Venous Endovascular Interventional Strategies) Award honoring him as an outstanding clinician, innovator, educator, and mentor. The award was presented to Dr. Meissner at the 11th annual VEINS conference.

"I am very pleased that this award recognizes the significant contributions that the University of Washington has made to advancing the care of patients with acute and chronic venous disease," said Dr. Meissner. "It would have not been possible without the support from my colleagues in the Department of Surgery who have supported me and allowed me to pursue my interest in venous disease over the past 30 years."



Dr. **Sherene Shalhub**, Associate Professor, Division of Vascular Surgery, received the Pioneer in EDS and HSD Research Award for demonstrating a long-term commitment to outstanding research and progression into Ehlers-Danlos syndromes, hypermobility spectrum disorders, and the associated symptoms and conditions. "I am truly humbled," said Dr. Shalhub. "I feel a deep sense of gratitude every day for all the help and support from everyone to make this possible."



Dr. **Jonathan Sham**, Assistant Professor, Division of General Surgery, was awarded the Americas Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Association's (AHPBA) **2021 Research Development Grant** for his research project, "**Novel Drug-eluting Biopolymer Reduce Pancreatic Fistula After Pancreatic Surgery.**" The research is in partnership with **Buddy Ratner**, the Michael L. & Myrna Darland Endowed Chair in Technology Commercialization in the Department of Bioengineering. Dr. Sham was this year's sole recipient of the award, which was the AHPBA's most competitive year ever. Dr. Sham was formally recognized for this achievement at the August AHPBA meeting in Miami.



Dr. **Mika Sinanan**, Professor, Division of General Surgery, named President of the Washington State Medical Association (WSMA) at its annual House of Delegates meeting in September 2021. The WSMA represents physicians, physician assistants, resident physicians, and medical students throughout Washington state. "I've spent my entire career at the UW and thank the many great colleagues, residents, students, and mentors here who I have learned and benefited from," said Dr. Sinanan. "While in my WSMA role I work for physicians and PAs across our entire state, my clinical home is the anchor and inspiration I draw on each day and will always be grateful for."



Dr. **Peter Wu**, Associate Professor, VA Puget Sound Health Care System (VA), received the American College of Surgeon's Commission on Cancer's (CoC) State Chair Outstanding Performance Award for exhibiting outstanding leadership, innovation and making significant contributions to cancer care improvement in Washington state. The award will be presented to Dr. Wu at the CoC's virtual State Chair Town Hall meeting in October 2021.

Dr. Wu also received a \$20,000 American Cancer Society award to support his "Return to Screening Quality of Improvement Project" to address the impact of COVID-19 on colorectal cancer screening at the VA Puget Sound Health Care System.

RESIDENTS



Dr. **John Monu**, Chief Resident, General Surgery, published "Psychological Traits and the Persuasiveness of Lung Cancer Screening Health Messages" in the Annals of Thoracic Surgery.

"Lung cancer screening has been proven to save lives, yet it remains underutilized," said Dr. Monu. "In a prior study, we learned that individuals eligible for lung cancer screening are primarily interested in learning more

about screening before deciding to be screened. By combining knowledge from the field of psychology that examines personality and its effects on decision-making, we assessed screen-eligible individuals' preferences related to lung cancer screening image advertisements. We found that advertisements that focus on the "big picture" and the benefits of lung cancer screening were most persuasive. This knowledge can be used to guide the design of more effective communications that inform our eligible patients about lung cancer screening. I am fortunate to have world-class researchers and experts in various fields here at UW. Our study relied on a strong collaboration with Professor of Marketing at the UW Foster School of Business, Dr. Nidhi Agrawal. Being able to draw on her expertise allowed us to explore a unique approach to studying ways in which we can improve our communication as health care providers."



Clinical Program Highlight

CYTOREDUCTIVE SURGERY AND HYPERTHERMIC INTRAPERITONEAL CHEMOTHERAPY (HIPEC)



Harveshp Mogal, MD
Associate Professor
Division of General
Surgery; Section Chief,
Complex Abdominal
Surgery

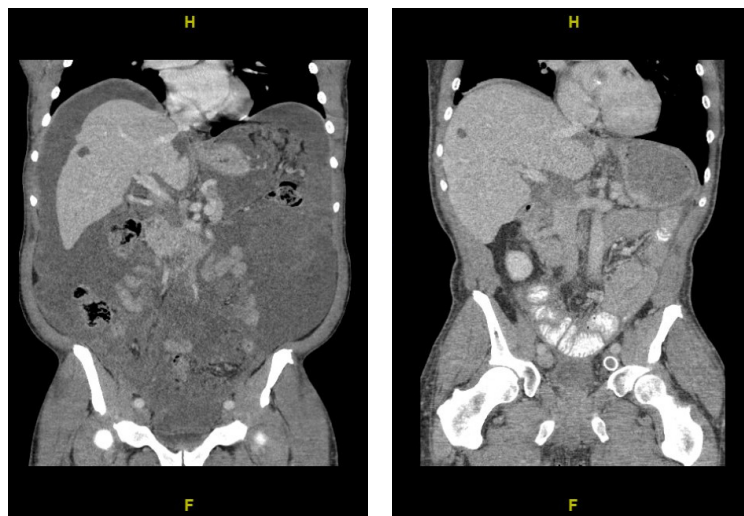
Patients with peritoneal cancer (also called peritoneal carcinomatosis), often present with advanced disease, and prognosis remains poor with most patients succumbing to their disease. These patients have little recourse to treatment options which focus mainly on systemic treatment to obtain disease control. Consequently, treatment of these patients has historically been approached with significant skepticism and therapeutic nihilism. In the last three decades, cytoreductive surgery (CRS) and hyperthermic intraperitoneal chemotherapy (HIPEC) has emerged as

a novel treatment modality, which in well-selected patients can provide significant improvement in cancer survival, quality of life and, in some instances, cure. The procedure consists of two parts: cytoreduction and HIPEC. During cytoreduction, tumors along the peritoneum are removed via peritoneal stripping or resection, including potential multi-visceral resection, to achieve complete removal of all macroscopic disease. This is followed by HIPEC, the circulation of heated chemotherapy within the abdomen via a closed-circuit pump. HIPEC utilizes the plasma-peritoneal barrier to achieve high concentrations of chemotherapy within the abdomen with minimal systemic absorption, a strategy that ensures maximal efficacy with minimal systemic side effects. Hyperthermia not only achieves direct cellular cytotoxicity, but also potentiates the action of chemotherapeutic agents during intraperitoneal perfusion. This combined multimodal treatment has been utilized in patients with appendiceal tumors (including mucinous neoplasms/pseudomyxoma peritonei and appendiceal adenocarcinoma), colorectal, gastric, ovarian (including primary peritoneal and fallopian tube) cancer and peritoneal mesothelioma, with median survival between 40 months to 10 years depending on pathologic subtype.

Over the past decade, advancements in perioperative management and surgical techniques have led to significant improvement in postoperative outcomes after CRS/HIPEC. Multidisciplinary consultation, clinical expertise and institution experience are the key drivers of good surgical and oncologic outcomes. The HIPEC program at UW in partnership with the [Seattle Cancer Care Alliance](#), promises to be the [WWAMI](#) region's premier academic HIPEC program. The program will strive to provide

patient-centered, personalized care that is comprehensive, compassionate and evidence-based, with a focus on clinical excellence, education and research. The program is headed by surgical oncologist Dr. [Harveshp Mogal](#), Associate Professor of Surgery and Chief of the Section of Complex Abdominal Oncology, who brings significant expertise in CRS/HIPEC. Patients are evaluated within a multidisciplinary HIPEC clinic managed in conjunction with Dr. [Stacey Cohen](#), Associate Professor in the Division of Medical Oncology, as well as multiple ancillary providers including a dietician, physical therapist, surgical oncology nurse, advanced practice provider and wound/ostomy care nurse. In close collaboration with gynecologic oncology and led by Dr. [Heidi Gray](#), Professor and Chief of Gynecologic Oncology, and Dr. [Barbara Goff](#), Professor and Chair of Gynecology and Obstetrics, patients with advanced epithelial ovarian cancer will receive consultation and management if deemed appropriate candidates for CRS/HIPEC. Through the development of standardized pathways for perioperative care, pathologic reporting and postoperative surveillance, the UW HIPEC program will facilitate consistency in patient management while also ensuring flexibility to meet individual patient needs. Participation in clinical and translational research will provide access to novel treatments and opportunities to improve oncologic outcomes. Provider and patient-focused educational events will foster engagement with community partners and spread awareness regarding the program's role as a leader in the management of advanced peritoneal disease.

The creation of the UW HIPEC program is a crucial step in advancing UW's mission of improving the health of our patients by providing outstanding, multidisciplinary clinical care and being recognized as a national leader in advanced abdominal cancers.



CT scan showing before (left) and after (right) CRS/HIPEC in a patient with mucinous carcinoma peritonei from appendiceal cancer.

Diversity in DOS

DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION SURVEY



Beth Ann Reimel, MD
Clinical Assistant Professor
DOS DEI Council Member

In winter 2020, the **Department of Surgery (DOS) Diversity Council** designed a survey to examine the department's current stance regarding Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI). The survey aimed to understand who the Department's employees are as people and healthcare providers, where to focus the time and efforts of the Diversity Council, and to ensure the Council intentionally addresses DEI concerns and initiatives. While this was follow-up to our initial 2015

diversity survey, the 2020 survey was re-imagined, with new questions and a new format.

The survey deployment was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but ultimately distributed via email in May 2020. It was delivered to 507 DOS residents, fellows, faculty, and staff, resulting in a 59% response rate.

Survey results were shared during the October 2020 Harkins Symposium, and in detail during February 2021 Grand Rounds. Our Grand Rounds discussion also incorporated definitions and discussion around the acronym URM as denoting both "under-represented minority" and "under-represented in medicine."

Department members felt that our leading DEI priorities are:

- recruitment of URM faculty
- health disparities research
- pipeline work for children high school-aged and younger.

Other highly rated focus areas were patient-facing DEI resources, pipeline work for URM residents & fellows, and retention of URM faculty.

The DOS DEI Council will use the survey data to move forward with initiatives that resonate with our department members and fit the needs of our department. The DEI Council would like to thank all for their interest and participation.

Beth Ann Reimel, MD

Department of Surgery DEI Council Member

Clinical Assistant Professor

Division of Trauma, Burn, & Critical Care Surgery

Harkins Corner

Dear Harkins Society Members
and Graduates of the University
of Washington Surgical
Training Programs,



Nicole K. Zern, MD
President, Harkins' Society
UW General Surgery
Graduate 2015

Akin to 2020, 2021 has been a year of unprecedented events in our world and our lives. Despite the global pandemic, we have continued to train excellent surgeons and maintain a robust clinical experience for our trainees. We were honored to celebrate

our recent residency graduates in June 2021 from the Department of Surgery (DOS) training programs: General Surgery, Plastic Surgery, Cardiothoracic Surgery, and Vascular Surgery. We also celebrated our **fellowship graduates**.

As you know, the fall season brings several occasions to gather as fellow alumni. There will again be no Harkins Society alumni gathering at the American College of Surgeons meeting as it is entirely virtual this year, but we remain optimistic for 2022! The Harkins Symposium was held virtually Friday, October 8th, 2021. This year we were honored to host Dr. Henri R. Ford as the 72nd Strauss Visiting Lecturer. Dr. Ford is a pediatric surgeon as well as the Dean of the University of Miami Leonard M. Miller School of Medicine.

We appreciate your patience as our website is revised and temporarily unavailable. Details about the Society and future events can be found on the Department of Surgery **website**.

Nicole K. Zern MD, FACS

President, Harkins Society

UW General Surgery Graduate 2015

Department of Surgery in the media

FACULTY

Dr. [Kris Calhoun](#), Professor
Division of General Surgery

[What Mentoring Women Means to
These Award Recipients](#)
UW Medicine, The Huddle, July 12, 2021

Dr. [Michael Mulligan](#), Professor
Division of Transplant Surgery
[9/11 Transplant Transport](#)
CBS Sports Network Twitter, September 11, 2021

Dr. [Benjamin Starnes](#), Professor & Chief
Division of Vascular Surgery
[Reflecting on Sept. 11, 2001: 20 Years Later](#)
UW Medicine, The Huddle, September 8, 2021

Dr. [Mark Sturdevant](#), Associate Professor
Division of Transplant Surgery
[Far-flung donor, recipient make for transplant milestone](#)
UW Medicine Newsroom, June 3, 2021

Dr. [Robert Sweet](#),
Chief, Division of Healthcare Simulation Science
Professor of Urology, Professor of Surgery, Adjunct Professor,
Bioengineering, Executive Director, WWAMI Institute for Simulation
in Healthcare (WISH), Executive Director, Center for Research in
Simulation Technologies (CREST), Medical Director,
UW Medicine Kidney Stone Center
[Innovative surgical simulator is a
significant advance in training trauma teams](#)
Science Daily, June 1, 2021

RESIDENTS

Dr. [Kajal Mehta](#), Research Resident
[When Your Global Health Research Fellowship
Goes Virtual: Lessons Learned](#)
American College of Surgeons, Associate Fellow News, May 2021

save the date 27th Annual Schilling Symposium



Friday, March 25, 2022

GUEST LECTURER

Dr. Kathie-Ann Joseph

Professor, Department of Surgery at NYU
Grossman School of Medicine

Professor, Department of Population
Health at NYU Grossman School of
Medicine

Please contact dosadmin@uw.edu
for information

UW Medicine

DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY



Surgery Synopsis is an in-house newsletter published on a quarterly basis to highlight the academic and research activities of the University of Washington School of Medicine Department of Surgery. This publication is distributed to the Department's faculty, residents, staff, and friends.

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